

परम गोपनीय  
TOP SECRET

विदेश मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(एन० जी० ओ० अनुभाग)  
(N. G. O. SECTION)

फाइल नं० 2514/N G O  
File No.

विषय :—(कृपया इस आवरण को उलटें)  
SUBJECT :—(Please Turn Over)

Lot-11  
(LW-KW)

कहां भेजा  
Passed to

कब भेजा  
On

कहां भेजा  
Passed to

कब भेजा  
On

कहां भेजा  
Passed to

कब भेजा  
On

Dr. A.P. 26.9.45

Jm

26.9.45

Chatterjee 6/1/16

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)  
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)  
संयुक्त सचिव (सी.एन.ओ.)  
Joint Secretary (C.N.O.)  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

Keep as per  
12/01/16



Declassified

Notes: P 1 to P 78

Corr: P 1 to P 156

Total 234



विषय :-

SUBJECT :-

(1) Safe custody of

late Shri Subodh Chandra Bose

in the Bonbubi Temple.

(2) Participation of our Embassy  
at Tokyo in the Memorial Service

संबंधित फाइल :-

Connected Files :-

नं०

No.

विषय :-

Subject :-

(3) Establishment of an advisory

Committee to enquire into the

circumstances of the alleged

death of Shri Netaji Bose.

किस तारीख को निकाली गई  
E/F Date

किस क्रम संख्या के लिए निकाली गई  
For Serial No.

किस क्रम संख्या का निपटारा हुआ  
Disposal Serial No.

टिप्पणी  
Remarks



NOTE

(1)

This matter was discussed in F.S.'s morning meeting. It was considered necessary to get the Ambassador's views before finalising to the matter. I am issuing a telegram accordingly/ our Ambassador in Peking. We may also find out what statements have been made in Parliament on this subject. My impression is that while Government of India have accepted the fact of Netaji's death, we have not necessarily accepted that the ashes in the Renkoji Buddhist temple are his ashes. It should be verified whether there are reported to be any other ashes of the late Netaji.

4-A-3000

5

*[Signature]*

(T. N. Kaul)  
28.7.1955.

DSK | Discussed with T.C. A copy of the telegram has already been sent in introduction from P.M. N.G.O. may kindly place that telegram in this file.

N.G.O.

6/8

N.G.O.

~~15/17~~



(2) ~~SECRET~~

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

I suggest you send the following reply to the attached telegram from Tokyo:

"Your telegram 73, July 29th. We think that our Embassy should participate in Memorial Services for Subhas Chandra Bose. Prime Minister stated in Parliament two years ago that in the circumstances we had to accept fact of death. Therefore, there is no difficulty in our taking up this position publicly."

*J. Nehru*

(J. Nehru)  
20.7.55.

*millai 3-7-55*  
ES

*John*

*Samy*

*(8-A) Issued*

*30/7*

No.D.3565-NGO/55. ... (9-A)

Demi-official letter No.F.5(1)NGO-1, dated the 30th August 1955, from the Embassy of India in Japan, Tokyo.

10

Please acknowledge and examine. While we accept Netaji's death, do we accept these ashes as the real ones? If so, then we could take them over; if not, then the course suggested by the Ambassador is the right one.

T.N. Kaul.

3/9/55.

Please let me have the file.

A. J. Kidwai.

4/9/55.

Draft ackgt is submitted. Please see current correspondence in this file with particular attention to the communications cited in the margin of S1(1-A) and minute 3 ante.

*(12-A) Issued*  
*9/9/55-899 DS(7) Mark*  
*9. 11.6.2*



③  
PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT  
-----

I enclose a letter from Shri N.Dutt-Mazumdar.

2. Some days ago, I had a talk with B.R.Sen on this subject. As a result of this, I wrote to Dr.B.C. Roy suggesting that we might send a team of three persons to Japan to enquire into the circumstances of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's death. I had a talk with Dr. Roy this evening. He agreed that this would be a good idea.
3. I think that a team of three should consist of (1) a representative of the Bose family, (2) a representative of the old I.N.A. and (3) a Government official.
4. Shri B.R.Sen himself suggested some such team. A suitable representative of the Bose family would be Shri Amiya Bose son of the late Shri Sarat Chandra Bose. An INA representative might be Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary. As for the Government representative, we might perhaps choose someone from Bengal, though that is not necessary.
5. If Shri B.R.Sen is still here, you might discuss this with him, or, else, you might write to him in Calcutta. I gather that Amiya Bose is perfectly willing to go. He has suggested that we might consult Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's wife in Vienna, but I do not think it necessary.
6. The next step we should take is to approach the Japanese Government informally and put it to them that, in view of a great deal of misapprehension here and some mystery surrounding Shri Subhas Bose's death, we consider it desirable to have an enquiry into the circumstances. Naturally, we can only do this with the approval and assistance of the Japanese Government. If they are agreeable to this, then we shall send a small deputation for the purposes of this enquiry. We hope that the Japanese Government will be good enough to give them full assistance in this matter.
7. The purpose of the enquiry will be to find the circumstances of the death and how far the ashes kept in a temple in Tokyo are Shri Subhas Bose's ashes.
8. The aeroplane accident leading to Shri Subhas Bose's death took place in Formosa. This raises a difficulty as it will be difficult for any of our men to go to Formosa and, if they did go there, they will be unable to do anything or get any help from the Formosan Government. As a matter of fact, I do not think that much can be done by a visit to Formosa. Such eye-witnesses or others who might know about that accident must be Japanese. These Japanese are obviously no longer in Formosa. If they have to be contacted, it will have to be in Japan itself. Therefore, a visit to Formosa appears not only difficult but unnecessary.
9. After discussing this matter with Shri B.R.Sen and sending through him a communication to the Japanese Government, you might inform Dr. B.C.Roy what steps we are taking. You might also request him to ask Shri Amiya Bose if, in the event of an enquiry team going to Japan, he would be willing to be a member of it.

contd....



10. You might acknowledge Shri N.Dutt-Mazumdar's letter and tell him that we are considering this matter.

11. I am sending a copy of this note to Dr.B.C.Roy.

*J. Nehru*

(J. Nehru)  
13.10.1955

*14.12.55*

F.S.

16

I was unable to contact Shri B. R. Sen. I have however spoken to Dr. B.C. Roy who is meeting Sen in Calcutta. Sen has also been asked by Dr. Roy to meet and discuss this matter with the Prime Minister on the 16th evening at Calcutta.

2. We shall have to approach the Japanese Government informally on the lines mentioned by the Prime Minister in paragraph 6 of his note. The previous papers should be looked up to see if any approach was made in the past and, if so, with what result. An officer of the Embassy should be associated with the Committee but not as a member.

*S. Dutt*

(S. Dutt)  
15. 10. 1955.

JS (E).

*17*  
With S.O.B.A. M. examine the  
prev. job. with our embassy as above?  
*W. Dutt*

18

S.O.B.A.

It examine it above quickly.

*S. K. Roy*

17/x

US/EAT

17-X-55



(5)

I have gone through the papers placed below and find that we did not at any time approach the Japanese Govt in this matter.

A draft S.O. to our Embassy in Japan is put up for approval -

Handwritten signature

18.10.55

S.O. B.A.

Pl see draft

VS/SA

D.H.  
1/11/55

Reminded  
D.H.  
2/11/55  
D.H.



P. 16-78  
T. 76-78  
(6)

SECRET

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

-----  
20

I met Shri B.R.Sen, our Ambassador in Tokyo, in Calcutta this evening. I asked him to inform the Japanese Government informally that, in view of the great interest in India in regard to the circumstances of the death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose and in his ashes, it would be desirable to have some kind of an investigation in this matter so as to remove any doubts from people's minds about these circumstances. It is obvious that no such enquiry can take place without the consent, approval and cooperation of the Japanese Government. If they are agreeable, as we hope they will be, then we propose to send a team of three persons who will place themselves at the disposal of the Japanese Government and conduct an enquiry in Japan in cooperation with the Japanese Government. This is all that need be said to the Japanese Government at this stage, and we should await their reply.

2. It is our intention to request Shri Amiya Bose, son of Shri Sarat Chandra Bose, and Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary and previously of the I.N.A., to be two members of this team. The third should be an official either from the Government of India or the West Bengal Government.

3. The enquiry should be carried out without too much fuss or publicity. It should be largely confined to the circumstances of the death and as to whether the ashes at present in a Japanese temple are Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes.

4. It is possible that questions might arise about the so-called treasure of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. Some of the Indian merchants in Japan have raised this question from time to time. I do not think we should mix up this matter with the other enquiry. Indeed, it is very difficult to enquire into this treasure, and the only people who can perhaps throw some light are the Japanese or some of the close associates of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. I had some kind of an enquiry made in Malaya some years ago. We recovered some gold. It seemed to me then that all the moneys with the India League had vanished because they were in Japanese currency which had no value left.

5. It is possible that some treasure was with Shri Subhas Chandra Bose when he died. Some small bit of it was sent to us. It consists of burnt pieces of jewellery etc. Their value is not great. I think these pieces etc. are with the External Affairs Ministry. I doubt very much if there is the slightest hope of our tracing any other treasure. In any event, the team we send should not go into that matter. If any facts come to our notice and the Japanese Government helps, we might take this up later.

6. I told Shri B.R.Sen that if and when this team goes to Japan, our Embassy should help them in every way and should not keep aloof. Indeed, they should realise that this is an enquiry sponsored by Government.

contd....



7. Although I have spoken to Shri B.R.Sen on this subject, a formal letter should be sent to him also. Meanwhile, Dr. B.C.Roy might be good enough to inform Shri Amiya Bose and get his reactions.

Jehru

(J. Nehru)  
16.10.1955

Camp: Calcutta.

2  
N.R. Sen: S.O.  
17.10.55 F.S.

Copy to: Dr. B.C.Roy.

For action. I asked JS to find out whether we have in the past made any approach to the Japanese Govt. about any enquiry.

S. W. Sen  
17.10.55

JS(E)

x 22  
I have written to our Asst. H. pick up file immediately, including Dr. Ram's letter.

W. Sen  
17.10.55

x  
(23. A) - Sen

PA



P-38-71  
2  
CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

74  
Shri Shah Nawaz Khan came to me this evening and discussed with me the proposed enquiry into Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's death. He suggested that the right person to go as a member of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's family was his eldest living brother, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose. He did not at all like the idea of Amiya Bose being sent and thought that this would be an unpopular choice.

I telephoned to Dr. B.C. Roy about this and he said that he would speak to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose and enquire from him if he was willing to go.

After this enquiry begins, it might be worthwhile for us to ask the American Embassy and the British High Commission if it is possible for them to give us some information. I have no doubt that both of them must have some information and may even have had their private enquiry.

J. Nehru  
(J. Nehru)  
20-10-1955

F.S.

25  
For action.

S. B. K. S.  
21.10.55

J. (E)

26  
Pl. put up when Japanese Govt  
reaction is received.

D.5367-FEA '55.

(2) 28

Please put up file and proposals.  
We have now to go ahead with finalising  
arrangements for the Delegation.

Sd/- T.N.Kaul  
13.11.55

NGO Section may kindly put up the relevant file,  
to U.S.(FEA) for further action.

H. K. S.

16.11.55

File 11/55

NGO  
US (FEA)



D. 123-78  
(9)

Ministry of External Affairs.

31

When is the Enquiry Committee likely to start investigation into the circumstances of Netaji Subas Bose's death? Prime Minister wants to know immediately.

(S. Dutt)  
9. 1. 1956.

JS(E)

32

The note to the Cabinet was submitted on 7. 1. 1956. I have spoken to Major General Shah Nawaz. He says that he is going to Pakistan in connection with the death of a near relation and will not be back till about the 10th of February. He thinks that the Committee could start work from about the 15th of February, collect preliminary data etc. and start for Japan about the end of February and return from there about the 3rd or 4th week of March. He also expressed a desire to get all the records of statements made by Lt. Col. Habibur Rahman, Mr. Iyer, etc. on the subject. He mentioned that he had spoken to P.M. that the American Occupation Authorities in Japan had also conducted an enquiry and it might be useful to get their records, if possible. He would also like Lt. Col. Habibur Rahman who is in Pakistan to be examined by the Committee, if possible, as Col. Rahman was with Netaji when the plane crashed.

2. I mentioned to Major General Shah Nawaz that it would have been desirable if the enquiry could be completed before the next session of Parliament as many questions are bound to be asked in the next session. He said that it would be impossible to complete the enquiry by then and the earliest they could do ~~it~~ <sup>start</sup> would be the 15th of ~~March~~ <sup>Feby.</sup>. In the meanwhile, we may get all the records and also request the American Ambassador here for copies of any records they may have and the Pakistan High Commissioner to allow Col. Habibur Rahman to appear before the Committee.



DS(E) should draw up a tentative programme in consultation with General Shah Nawaz.

(T. N. Kaul)  
10.1.1956.

20/3/56(E).

DS(E)

I propose to suggest the following schedule to Major-General Shah Nawaz :-

15th to 20th February. Committee meets and studies relevant papers and documents in External Affairs Ministry.

21st to 23rd February. Examination of witnesses in India and Pakistan.

24th February. Leave for Singapore.

25th to 28th February. Examination of witnesses in Singapore.

29th February. Leave for Bangkok.

1st to 3rd March. Examination of witnesses in Bangkok.

4th March. Leave for Saigon.

5th and 6th March. Examination of witnesses in Saigon.

7th March. Leave for Tokyo.

8th to 21st March. Enquiry in Tokyo.

22nd March. Leave for India.

We have provided for 5 weeks in the note for Cabinet. It is quite possible that the enquiry in Japan might take longer in which case the Chairman can ask for the further extension of its visit.

We are not providing for any meetings of the Committee in Delhi after their return from Tokyo. Two members of the Committee are in Calcutta and, unless the Chairman feels otherwise, he can visit Calcutta



11

on official tours and meet his colleagues there.

If J.S. approves, I will suggest the above itinerary to the Chairman.

It would be better to approach the Pakistan High Commissioner after we have fixed a date for Col. Habibur Rahman to appear before the Committee.

Regarding the records of the American Occupation Authorities in Japan, J.S. may indicate whether I should make the request now.


4-1-56  
(A. J. Kidwai)  
12. 1. 56.

2. memo  
2 14

J.S(E)

36

J.S(E) should first discuss with  
Gen. that now we shall have  
up for J.S. approval. He will  
Sargan, Bangkok we shall have  
discuss the facts. (under)  
Will J.S(E) also put up with this  
upper camp M. ?

  
(14-1-56)

37

J.S(E) Same letter to J.S. for that matter

2 SW  
0/1

(38A)-1/1000

Agreed



D. 411-78

12

CABINET SECRETARIAT.

P.M. had recently expressed some doubt as to whether Shri Suresh Chandra Bose had agreed to serve on the Committee appointed to make investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of his brother, Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. P.M. will be interested to know that Shri Suresh Chandra Bose has conveyed in writing to Shri Shah Nawaz, who is going to be the Chairman of the Committee, his consent to serve on the Committee. Copy of Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's letter is placed below.

(Y.N. Sukthankar).  
20.1.56.

P.M.

Lab. Sectt. U.O.  
No. CSR/17/56,  
dt. 20.1.56.

for 7.5. <sup>40</sup> to see

J. N. Sukthankar  
20/1

*[Signature]*

21.1.56

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
22.1.56

*[Signature]* A. G. Kulkarni

23.1.56

309-N 8776

~~US (PRA)~~

N-G.O.

24/1



13

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(42A)

I send herewith a letter from Dr. B.C. Roy and the reply I have given him. We have to give up the idea of having R.K. Mitra as a Member of the Committee.

(44A) - 1st issue.

copy

(S. Dutt)  
1.2.56

J.S. (E)

45

Will Dutt be forthright in  
in the cabinet. When the  
member is finally selected -

1.2.56

868/15(E)

1861

46

Please put up as soon as reply to F-3's letter  
of 18th January from Premier, West Bengal is received.

A. J. Kishore  
1.2.56

5282W  
3/2

N.G.O.





D. 725-X



DEPUTY MINISTER  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INDIA

Ref. Dr. B.C. Roy's letter about the third member of the Investigating Party on Netaji's death mystery - I should think Sri. Ranjit Jyoti would do well, certainly ~~at~~ better than S. Mohan. I still think a Senior Police Officer <sup>have</sup> with intelligence experience would <sup>have</sup> been helpful in a Committee of this nature. The inclusion of a ~~senior~~ brother of Netaji's in the Committee & of Sri. Shah Nawaz should suffice - so far as the public are concerned - But those who are determined not to be convinced, would never be convinced whatever be the composition of the Committee.

Amie ul Haq

1/2/56

✓ S

48

We have to be

guided by the W. Bengal Govt's

advice & then prefer an I.S. officer

S. K. Das



(15)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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J.S. will remember that in connection with our Cabinet note on the Netaji Subhash Chander Bose Enquiry Committee some doubt was expressed by the Cabinet Secretariat whether Shri Suresh Chander Bose has accepted the invitation to serve on the Committee. I conveyed the doubt to Major-General Shah Nawaz Khan, who sent me a copy of the letter that he had received from Shri Suresh Chander Bose, in which Shri Bose had in very definite language agreed to serve on the Committee. This letter was passed on to the Cabinet Secretariat and was also shown to the Prime Minister.

Gen. Shah Nawaz Khan now wants us to write a formal letter to Shri Suresh Chander Bose and obtain his formal reply.

The formality of inviting Shri Suresh Chander Bose to serve on the Committee was not gone through because of a certain misunderstanding. On 20th October P.M. recorded a note in which he said he had spoken to Dr. B.C. Roy about Shri Suresh Chander Bose, <sup>and Dr. Roy</sup> who had promised to speak to Shri Bose and enquire from him if he was willing to join the Committee. We do not know if Dr. B.C. Roy conveyed Shri Bose's acceptance to P.M. orally.

On 23rd November, F.S. wrote to Dr. Roy a letter in which he said that he presumed that Shri Bose was agreeable to working on the Committee. There is no reply on the file from Dr. Roy to F.S., but apparently F.S. had a talk with Dr. Roy about this matter.

As we have no formal letter of acceptance from Shri Bose, Gen. Shah Nawaz suggests that we might



write to him. I submit the enclosed draft which  
we shall continue to maintain his acceptance and inquire from  
him when it would be convenient for him to undertake the visit to Japan.  
The reply to that letter will come by his letter of acceptance.

A. J. Kidwai  
(A. J. Kidwai)  
25. 1. 56.

692/57(E)

Japan

I also spoke about this to J.S. who says that  
it would be more appropriate if the letter went from F.S.

A. J. Kidwai  
25. 1. 56

J.S. (E)

me  
27/1/56

Imperial

J.S.

Letter.

3. 2. 56

(50A) - 1/56

PS

4/2

J.S. (E)



Major-General Shah Nawaz has returned from a visit to Calcutta and I had a talk with him this morning.

During his stay in Calcutta, Maj.Gen. Shah Nawaz tried to consult his two other colleagues on the proposed Committee about its programme of work and the terms of reference for it which he should suggest to Government. Shri Suresh Chander Bose was not available, but Gen. Shah Nawaz was able to consult Shri Mitra, Home Secretary of the West Bengal Government, who is going to be the third member of the Committee.

675/33(2)

It appears Shri Mitra is taking over a new post in the first week of February and will not be able to get away from his work during February. Shri Suresh Chander is in a weak state of health and it would not be advisable for him to visit Japan in Winter. Shri Shah Nawaz himself is planning a visit to Pakistan in February to see his relations after which he will be taken up with the Railway budget debate in Parliament. In view of all these considerations, Gen. Shah Nawaz thinks the middle of March would be a suitable time for the Committee to start its work. I have asked him to mention this to P.M. who appears to be anxious that the Committee should start its work soon.

Regarding terms of reference, Gen. Shah Nawaz in consultation with Shri Mitra suggests the following formulation :-

"To inquire into the departure of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945 and the subsequent events leading to his disappearance".

This appears to be a sufficiently elastic formulation

and .....

2. And submit a  
report of facts with  
their findings &  
recommendations.



and the word "disappearance" is more appropriate than the word "death" which we have used so far. But it would exclude an investigation by the Committee into the authenticity of the ashes in the Renkoji temple in Tokyo. As the ashes are likely to be the subject of recurring controversy, I think we should have the verdict of the Committee on their authenticity and this should be the second term of reference.

A. J. Kidwai

(A. J. Kidwai)  
25.1.1956.

J.S(E)

<sup>52</sup>  
I would suggest "alleged death" instead of "disappearance" and add at the end "and submit a report to Govt. of India with their findings and recommendations".

Urband  
26.1.56

F.S.

<sup>53</sup>  
I would formulate the terms of reference as follows:-

"To enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, ~~his~~ alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident and subsequent developments connected therewith."

By a letter we can make it clear that the scope of enquiry will also include investigation into the authenticity of the ashes of Shri Bose in the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo.

I am told that Shri R.K. Mitra has taken over as Commissioner of the Calcutta Port Trust. We have to be quite sure that his services will be available for this



enquiry. I would like JS(E) to contact the Chief Secretary of West Bengal Shri S.N. Ray and also the Transport Ministry. If Shri R.K. Mitra is not likely to be available we must ask the West Bengal Government to nominate somebody else in his place.

After action has been taken the papers may be returned to me so that I can mention to the Prime Minister.

(S.Dutt)  
27.1.1956

JS E

<sup>54</sup>  
I have consulted Secy. Transport Ministry. He says that as they are expecting lakhs of trouble at Calcutta Port it would be 'extremely hazardous' to let Shri Mitra to go out for 5 to 6 weeks so soon after his taking over.

I have also spoken to Chief Secy. W Bengal Govt. who has promised to recommend another person shortly.

W. Dutt  
30.1.56

1/4 (42A)+  
(44A)

K. Dutt to Ds (G)  
on 2/2/56

7-5-

<sup>55</sup>  
I have since sent JS a copy of Dr B.C. Ray's letter & my reply to him.

JS E

me  
<sup>56</sup>

JS(E) Issue letter to Gen. Shah Mirza.

(57A) - Issue.

Agree  
7/3

S.Dutt  
3.2.56

568/JS(E).

Mr. Ray is not  
likely to be  
available. The  
matter is  
being  
looked  
into.



(20)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(58A)

Please see the attached letter from Dr. Roy and my reply. I am afraid the Committee's departure from India will be delayed once more.

I also place below a telegram to Shri Sankar Moitra, at present Chief Commissioner, Andamans. It should issue after J.S.(E) has seen.

Please issue direct after J.S.(E) has seen. 9/2

PA to J.S.(E)

1041/57(E).

1A

7/2 SW 10/2

60  
J.S.(E) *[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
(S. Dutt)  
9.2.56  
*[Signature]*  
9-2-56

SE(E) 107-20-  
9/2

1-54 N.G.O. 105 no 5  
(61A)-(62A)







22

TOP SECRET

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(67A)

I have acknowledged Shri B.R. Sen's letter.  
The Japanese note should be shown to the Members of the  
Committee when they come to Delhi.

(69A) (70A) JCS  
JSE

11.2.56

S. DUTT

(S. DUTT)  
11-2-1956

JS(E)

71

Major General Shah may kindly see this memorandum  
and return it as soon as possible as we have not yet had  
copies made for the members of the Delegation Committee.

A. K. Sharma  
10/2/56

Seen by Major Gen. Shah morning.

A. K. Sharma  
23/2

Dr. Mukherjee.  
A. K. Sharma  
24/2/56

22811  
25/2



(23)

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

I have already spoken to you about this matter. I do not think that Radha Binod Pal will be suitable.

J Nehru

(J. Nehru)  
21-2-1956.

F.S.

74

Issue letter dictating.

S. D. M.  
21.2.56

for me  
- 24/56

for (S) Radha  
23/2

N.B.S.

(75A) - Issue.

new  
m/n

130/10(E)



(24)

Ministry of External Affairs.

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I had a talk with Major General Shah Nawaz Khan a few days ago regarding the Netaji Bose Enquiry Committee when he made the following suggestions:-

- Settled* | (i) The only non-official member of the committee is Shri Suresh Chandra Bose. Shri Bose's financial condition is not very good and, therefore, when the terms of the committee are drawn up, besides the normal daily allowance at the places of halt he should be given a lumpsum honorarium. I discussed this with J.S.(E). He thought that an honorarium of Rs.2,000/- would be suitable.

General Shah Nawaz Khan pointed out that there was a parallel for this in the Railway Accidents' Inquiry Committee, one of the non-official members of which was given a lumpsum honorarium.

- ✓ (ii) General Shah Nawaz thinks that, besides secretarial assistance to be provided by our missions in the countries which the committee visits, it would be essential to take one P.A.-cum-Stenographer who is familiar with the case and the connected papers right through. He, therefore, wishes to take his own Personal Assistant with him.
- ✓ (iii) We have not made provision for travelling allowance of witnesses from India and Pakistan who will be examined by the committee in India before it leaves for Tokyo. ~~We suggest provision of Rs. 2,000/- may be made for this expenditure.~~
- Action Taken* | (iv) We should now move the Governments concerned for witnesses which have to be examined by the committee. The only I.N.A. eye-witness of Netaji's alleged death is Col. Habibur Rehman. General Shah Nawaz suggests that we might give advance intimation of our intention to invite him for evidence to the Pakistan High Commissioner here and request the permission of the Pakistan Government to examine him. Col. Habib-ur Rehman is posted in Skardu and since we are planning to have the committee start work by the 15th March the request to the Pakistan High Commissioner may be made immediately. This may be made either by Commonwealth Secretary to the Pakistan High Commissioner or by D.S.(Pak) to the Deputy High Commissioner. There are a number of other witnesses whose names General Shah Nawaz has given me. Thus, Gen. Isoka and Mr. Hachiya, Ambassadors of Japan to the provisional Government of Azad Hind, Japanese survivors of the crashed



25

plane which was carrying Netaji, Japanese Officers who were on duty at the Airport at the time of the alleged plane crash, the Medical Officers and nurses who were on duty in the hospital in which Netaji was admitted after the plane crashed, the Officer who certified his death, persons present while his body was cremated, the Officer who delivered Netaji's ashes to Shri Habib-ur Rehman, Lt.Gen. Arasue, ex-Chief of Intelligence at Japanese Supreme HQ., are to be examined. General Shah Nawaz also suggests that we might ask the U.S. Government if any enquiry was held by the Military Intelligence Service of their Far East Command into the alleged plane crash in which Netaji was involved. A similar enquiry has to be made from the British authorities.

2. Ex-members of the I.N.A. or the Azad Hind Government like Major General Guzara Singh, Deb Nath Das and others will have to be examined in India. These processes will have to be set in motion now if the committee is able to launch right into its work by the 15th March. I, therefore, suggest that for purposes of these preliminary arrangements General Shah Nawaz may begin to function as the committee till the whole committee is able to meet.

3. If General Shah Nawaz's recommendations in paragraphs (i) (ii) and (iii) are approved a revised Cabinet Note will have to be submitted.

~~F.S. may see for orders.~~

A. J. Kidwai

(A. J. Kidwai)  
17-2-1956.

F.S.

77

Handed over to me by DS(E) on 1/3/56. Action has been taken on all the points except witnesses & those on which F.S. has suggested delayed action. R.1/3.



From pre-page.

I agree that we should think out the preliminary arrangements on the advice of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan. No step can be taken until the whole Committee has met. We should not let the Committee feel tied to any steps taken by us.

2. As regards suggestion (i), I have written to the Chief Secretary, West Bengal - copy placed below. Suggestions (ii) and (iii) are reasonable and we shall have to make provision for the expenditure involved. They cannot, however, be dealt with until we have a reply from the Chief Secretary, West Bengal.

3. We should give the Pakistan High Commissioner/notice of our intention to invite Mr. Habibur Rehman. I would not, however, approach the U.S. and U.K. Governments at this stage. After the Committee has examined the witnesses and formed some idea of the circumstances of the case we can consider approaching the U.K. and U.K. Governments. They are not likely to disclose their intelligence reports to us.

0831-NB0 (12)

(79A) - Same

(S. DUTT)  
22-2-1956

DS(E) A.H. - 2/2  
NB0.

84

S.O.F.A. may see this file as I am handing over charge today.

The following action regarding the Bose Enquiry Committee remains to be taken:-

(i) As soon as Shri Shah Nawaz indicates the date on which the committee should meet here, Shri Maitra and Shri Suresh Chandra Bose should be informed. I have already



written to Shri Shah Nawaz to indicate the date.

(ii) There are two letters, which I have placed on this file, from Shri Shah Nawaz suggesting the names of witnesses who have to be examined by the committee in India. Col. Habibur Rahman is at present in the service of the Pakistan Govt. Political Department. F.S. has agreed that at some stage which he would indicate we should give notice to the Pakistan High Commissioner of our intention to invite Mr. Habibur Rahman to appear before the committee. We will have to write to the other witnesses also as soon as the meeting of the committee is fixed.

(iii) Since we submitted the note to the Cabinet on the Bose Enquiry Committee certain other decisions with financial implications have been taken. It has been agreed by F.S. that Shri Shah Nawaz should take his P.A.-cum-Stenographer on his journeys abroad and that financial provision should be made for the travelling and daily allowances of witnesses who will be appearing before the committee in India. There is a further proposal about giving an honorarium to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose. F.S. has written to the Chief Secretary of West Bengal Government and as soon as we have the Chief Secretary's reply we will be able to decide whether an honorarium should be given to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose. There is also the question of giving Shri Shah Nawaz an additional allowance which would compensate for the loss of his daily allowance as Member of Parliament.

(iv) Except the question of the honorarium for Shri Suresh Chandra Bose I have noted the other decisions regarding the financial implications in F.E.A. Section file and asked U.S. (FEA) to prepare a revised draft of financial sanction and submit to Finance Ministry for approval.



(v) I have shown all the material in the files of the Section regarding the circumstances of Netaji Bose's alleged death to Shri Shah Nawaz but I have not shown the N.G.O. files to him yet. In fact, there is very little in the N.G.O. files about the circumstances of the death. There is more about the I.N.A. Treasure. At some stage S.O.F.A. may ask J.S.(E)'s opinion whether these files also should be shown to members of the committee.

(vi) There was a long memorandum received from the Japanese about the circumstances of Netaji's death. This I have shown to General Shah Nawaz and Deputy Minister. F.S. has directed that it should be shown to all the members of the Bose Enquiry Committee. Cyclostyled copies of this memorandum will have to be made for other members of the committee.

S.O.F.A. may kindly keep in touch with Major Shah Nawaz on telephone.

Aptad  
(A.J.Kidwai)  
29-2-56.

S.O.F.A.

85

As verbally directed by SOFA, this file (in two parts) may be shown to Genl Shah Nawaz Khan. The report prepared by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs received with Sl (67A) has already been delivered to General Shah Nawaz Khan.

H  
12/4/56

86

I give orders that this should go

direct.

J. L. G. 14/4

Rece.

SOFA has  
taken action  
24/3  
12/4/56



(29)

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

I do not know if you have seen the enclosed cutting. Anyhow, it might be kept for reference.

J. Nehru  
(J. Nehru)  
27. 4. 1956

F.S.

JSE

90

29.4.56

This has obviously been given by a member of the Committee - unless the Japanese may have done so, which I doubt. In any case, it may help in convincing the public of Neta's death and we may, therefore, take no action on it.

3232 SS(E)

(without these notes)

F.S.

it

We may, if you agree, pass  
it to the Committee.

91

29.4.56

J.S(E)

92

I have handed it over to the Committee.

S. P. S.  
27/4/56

27.4.56

1568-2260/56

(93A) - Secy.



SECRET

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

98  
I am sorry to read the attached letter. When this Committee was here, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose met me and was not satisfied with Shah Nawaz. He wanted Binod Pal to be the Chairman of the Committee. I told him that this was not feasible. Subsequently, he complained to me about some very minor matters against Shaw Nawaz. I thought all this was rather trivial. But, what Anand Mohan Sahay writes is really extraordinary.

2. You might acknowledge this letter.

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)  
23. 5. 1956

S.G.

F.S.

99

J. Nehru and Mr. Sahay's letter.

26/5

(100 A) - Letter

Letter  
25.5.56  
25(E)

my!

Indira

26/5



SE (106A)

SE (104A)

Secretary may kindly see F.R. with reference to I.B's note dated 17.8.56 on page 1/n and S.R. Nos 1,2 and 3. After Secretary has seen the F.R. will be shown to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Secretary

Sd/- Raj Kumar  
14.6.57. Deputy Secretary  
M. of Home Affairs,  
Tel. No. 32547

Sd/-  
15.6.57.

Ministry of External Affairs  
( Shri B.K. Acharya )

Sd/- 17.6.57.  
Raj Kumar  
Deputy Secretary  
Min. of Home Affairs,  
Tel. No. 32547.

M.H.A.U.O. No. F.5/21/56-T  
Dt. 17.6.57.

108

Seen. U.S.(E.A.) may see and return.

Sd/-

B.K. Acharya  
19.6.57-

Ministry of Home. (Sd: Raj Kumar)

Ministry of External Affairs. U.O. No. D. 3280-nw/57, D. 22.6.57.

2-  
Kumar  
27/6/57.



9.4684-EA/57

Please see the FR and the attached note of  
PA & JS(E). Presumably the FR belongs to NGO  
Section and action on it had been taken.

[In case the FR does not belong to them and  
no action on it was taken earlier, we would  
be prepared to deal with it.]

23-8-57 23/8

NGO

NGO Section

Submitted with papers. Minute 182 and S.Nos 181-A, 184-A, 202-A  
and 210-A of Vol. I and S.Nos. 13-A and paragraph 15 of S.No 103-A of Vol II  
may kindly be seen. The N.G.O. pp. were submitted previously to  
7.8 in connection with the J.A. and it seems J.S. marked the FR to  
JS(E). Incidentally it may be mentioned that during the forthcoming  
tour of Japan, Prime Minister would visit the Benkoji Temple.

As receipt of the FR has not so far been acknowledged  
a draft is put up for approval.

27/9/57  
579  
JS(E)

In September, 1956 a memorandum on the Report of the Netaji  
Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Committee was submitted to the Cabinet.  
The Committee's recommendation and the government's views may kindly  
be seen in para 15 of the memorandum. There has been no subsequent  
development in the matter.

Issue D.O. below.

B.K. Acharya  
(B.K. Acharya)  
9.9.1957

5060/DSE

27/9/57  
779  
JS(E)  
NGO  
111-A (ISSUE)



Diary No. 2482  
Date 10/9/57  
NEW DELHI.

33

CONFIDENTIAL

National Museum of India.

.....

A sealed box containing relics of Neta-Ji Subhash Chandra Bose, has been lying in the National Museum since 30.12.1953. The contents were received from the Ministry of External Affairs through Shri D.D. Bhatia, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. These were accessioned in the General Register, but these pages of the register were later on sealed, as the contents were considered to be secret. This seal is said to have been broken at the time when the Inquiry Committee about the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose visited the Museum. The pages were re-sealed after that. As the objects in question do not form a part of the art objects to be exhibited in the National Museum, the Ministry of External Affairs may kindly be requested to take over these objects.

Vikram Singh  
(VIKRAM SINGH)

Min. of Education & S.R. (Shri D.K. Hingorani).

National Museum U.O.I. No. D. 2482/Date 10/9/57

D.K. Hingorani  
10/11

Ministry of External Affairs

M/ Edu. & S. R. 4/0. No. D. 5244/57-c3 dt. 11/9/57

Ministry of External Affairs.

NGO Section may kindly take over this. The box was not sent by

E.A. Section.

Ministry of External Affairs  
NGO Section

In this connection minutes Nos. 168 to 180 and 185 to 198 of Vol. I may kindly be seen.

D. 4994-NGO/57 (D.O. from Shri C.S. Jha, Indian Ambassador, Tokyo)  
S.No. (114-A) PR

Put up with papers in due course.

Sd/- B.K. Acharya  
25/9/

Submitted with papers.

510(5)  
57x  
35(15)

11417-5/57  
11/9

D. 5244/57-c3  
11/9

D. 3991-5/57

4831-NGO/57

SA

18/9

ag 'R'

NGO

7/19



from pre-page

There are two issues outstanding on both of which it may be necessary to await the orders of the Prime Minister. The first is as to whether steps should be taken to bring the ashes of Netaji back to India, on which the Ambassador has sought decision. Since the Prime Minister is visiting the Rankoji Temple, it is likely that his final orders will be given on his return. There <sup>all</sup> appears to be <sup>an</sup> initiative from the family of Netaji ~~in the committee~~.

Secondly, the National Museum have sought instructions as to the final disposal of the contents of the box containing certain papers and objects gathered presumably from the site of the accident in which Netaji was killed. This box was deposited in the National Museum in 1953. P.M. then ordered that there was no question of holding an exhibition of these objects, but the articles were of historical interest and, therefore, were ~~deposited~~ with the National Museum. There does not seem to be any other more suitable place where these objects can be kept, even though they are not publicly exhibited. Orders on this reference may also have to be obtained from the P.M. on his return.

Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

( J. S. MEHTA )

10/10/57

N.G.O.

may kindly be seen

1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030-2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040-2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050-2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060-2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070-2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080-2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090-2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100-2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110-2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120-2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130-2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140-2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150-2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160-2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170-2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180-2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190-2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200-2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210-2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220-2221-2222-2223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230-2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240-2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250-2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260-2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270-2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280-2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290-2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300-2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310-2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320-2321-2322-2323-2324-2325-2326-2327-2328-2329-2330-2331-2332-2333-2334-2335-2336-2337-2338-2339-2340-2341-2342-2343-2344-2345-2346-2347-2348-2349-2350-2351-2352-2353-2354-2355-2356-2357-2358-2359-2360-2361-2362-2363-2364-2365-2366-2367-2368-2369-2370-2371-2372-2373-2374-2375-2376-2377-2378-2379-2380-2381-2382-2383-2384-2385-2386-2387-2388-2389-2390-2391-2392-2393-2394-2395-2396-2397-2398-2399-2400-2401-2402-2403-2404-2405-2406-2407-2408-2409-2410-2411-2412-2413-2414-2415-2416-2417-2418-2419-2420-2421-2422-2423-2424-2425-2426-2427-2428-2429-2430-2431-2432-2433-2434-2435-2436-2437-2438-2439-2440-2441-2442-2443-2444-2445-2446-2447-2448-2449-2450-2451-2452-2453-2454-2455-2456-2457-2458-2459-2460-2461-2462-2463-2464-2465-2466-2467-2468-2469-2470-2471-2472-2473-2474-2475-2476-2477-2478-2479-2480-2481-2482-2483-2484-2485-2486-2487-2488-2489-2490-2491-2492-2493-2494-2495-2496-2497-2498-2499-2500-2501-2502-2503-2504-2505-2506-2507-2508-2509-2510-2511-2512-2513-2514-2515-2516-2517-2518-2519-2520-2521-2522-2523-2524-2525-2526-2527-2528-2529-2530-2531-2532-2533-2534-2535-2536-2537-2538-2539-2540-2541-2542-2543-2544-2545-2546-2547-2548-2549-2550-2551-2552-2553-2554-2555-2556-2557-2558-2559-2560-2561-2562-2563-2564-2565-2566-2567-2568-2569-2570-2571-2572-2573-2574-2575-2576-2577-2578-2579-2580-2581-2582-2583-2584-2585-2586-2587-2588-2589-2590-2591-2592-2593-2594-2595-2596-2597-2598-2599-2600-2601-2602-2603-2604-2605-2606-2607-2608-2609-2610-2611-2612-2613-2614-2615-2616-2617-2618-2619-2620-2621-2622-2623-2624-2625-2626-2627-2628-2629-2630-2631-2632-2633-2634-2635-2636-2637-2638-2639-2640-2641-2642-2643-2644-2645-2646-2647-2648-2649-2650-2651-2652-2653-2654-2655-2656-2657-2658-2659-2660-2661-2662-2663-2664-2665-2666-2667-2668-2669-2670-2671-2672-2673-2674-2675-2676-2677-2678-2679-2680-2681-2682-2683-2684-2685-2686-2687-2688-2689-2690-2691-2692-2693-2694-2695-2696-2697-2698-2699-2700-2701-2702-2703-2704-2705-2706-2707-2708-2709-2710-2711-2712-2713-2714-2715-2716-2717-2718-2719-2720-2721-2722-2723-2724-2725-2726-2727-2728-2729-2730-2731-2732-2733-2734-2735-2736-2737-2738-2739-2740-2741-2742-2743-2744-2745-2746-2747-2748-2749-2750-2751-2752-2753-2754-2755-2756-2757-2758-2759-2760-2761-2762-2763-2764-2765-2766-2767-2768-2769-2770-2771-2772-2773-2774-2775-2776-2777-2778-2779-2780-2781-2782-2783-2784-2785-2786-2787-2788-2789-2790-2791-2792-2793-2794-2795-2796-2797-2798-2799-2800-2801-2802-2803-2804-2805-2806-2807-2808-2809-2810-2811-2812-2813-2814-2815-2816-2817-2818-2819-2820-2821-2822-2823-2824-2825-2826-2827-2828-2829-2830-2831-2832-2833-2834-2835-2836-2837-2838-2839-2840-2841-2842-2843-2844-2845-2846-2847-2848-2849-2850-2851-2852-2853-2854-2855-2856-2857-2858-2859-2860-2861-2862-2863-2864-2865-2866-2867-2868-2869-2870-2871-2872-2873-2874-2875-2876-2877-2878-2879-2880-2881-2882-2883-2884-2885-2886-2887-2888-2889-2890-2891-2892-2893-2894-2895-2896-2897-2898-2899-2900-2901-2902-2903-2904-2905-2906-2907-2908-2909-2910-2911-2912-2913-2914-2915-2916-2917-2918-2919-2920-2921-2922-2923-2924-2925-2926-2927-2928-2929-2930-2931-2932-2933-2934-2935-2936-2937-2938-2939-2940-2941-2942-2943-2944-2945-2946-2947-2948-2949-2950-2951-2952-2953-2954-2955-2956-2957-2958-2959-2960-2961-2962-2963-2964-2965-2966-2967-2968-2969-2970-2971-2972-2973-2974-2975-2976-2977-2978-2979-2980-2981-2982-2983-2984-2985-2986-2987-2988-2989-2990-2991-2992-2993-2994-2995-2996-2997-2998-2999-3000-3001-3002-3003-3004-3005-3006-3007-3008-3009-3010-3011-3012-3013-3014-3015-3016-3017-3018-3019-3020-3021-3022-3023-3024-3025-3026-3027-3028-3029-3030-3031-3032-3033-3034-3035-3036-3037-3038-3039-3040-3041-3042-3043-3044-3045-3046-3047-3048-3049-3050-3051-3052-3053-3054-3055-3056-3057-3058-3059-3060-3061-3062-3063-3064-3065-3066-3067-3068-3069-3070-3071-3072-3073-3074-3075-3076-3077-3078-3079-3080-3081-3082-3083-3084-3085-3086-3087-3088-3089-3090-3091-3092-3093-3094-3095-3096-3097-3098-3099-3100-3101-3102-3103-3104-3105-3106-3107-3108-3109-3110-3111-3112-3113-3114-3115-3116-3117-3118-3119-3120-3121-3122-3123-3124-3125-3126-3127-3128-3129-3130-3131-3132-3133-3134-3135-3136-3137-3138-3139-3140-3141-3142-3143-3144-3145-3146-3147-3148-3149-3150-3151-3152-3153-3154-3155-3156-3157-3158-3159-3160-3161-3162-3163-3164-3165-3166-3167-3168-3169-3170-3171-3172-3173-3174-3175-3176-3177-3178-3179-3180-3181-3182-3183-3184-3185-3186-3187-3188-3189-3190-3191-3192-3193-3194-3195-3196-3197-3198-3199-3200-3201-3202-3203-3204-3205-3206-3207-3208-3209-3210-3211-3212-3213-3214-3215-3216-3217-3218-3219-3220-3221-3222-3223-3224-3225-3226-3227-3228-3229-3230-3231-3232-3233-3234-3235-3236-3237-3238-3239-3240-3241-3242-3243-3244-3245-3246-3247-3248-3249-3250-3251-3252-3253-3254-3255-3256-3257-3258-3259-3260-3261-3262-3263-3264-3265-3266-3267-3268-3269-3270-3271-3272-3273-3274-3275-3276-3277-3278-3279-3280-3281-3282-3283-3284-3285-3286-3287-3288-3289-3290-3291-3292-3293-3294-3295-3296-3297-3298-3299-3300-3301-3302-3303-3304-3305-3306-3307-3308-3309-3310-3311-3312-3313-3314-3315-3316-3317-3318-3319-3320-3321-3322-3323-3324-3325-3326-3327-3328-3329-3330-3331-3332-3333-3334-3335-3336-3337-3338-3339-3340-3341-3342-3343-3344-3345-3346-3347-3348-3349-3350-3351-3352-3353-3354-3355-3356-3357-3358-3359-3360-3361-3362-3363-3364-3365-3366-3367-3368-3369-3370-3371-3372-3373-3374-3375-3376-3377-3378-3379-3380-3381-3382-3383-3384-3385-3386-3387-3388-3389-3390-3391-3392-3393-3394-3395-3396-3397-3398-3399-3400-3401-3402-3403-3404-3405-3406-3407-3408-3409-3410-3411-3412-3413-3414-3415-3416-3417-3418-3419-3420-3421-3422-3423-3424-3425-3426-3427-3428-3429-3430-3431-3432-3433-3434-3435-3436-3437-3438-3439-3440-3441-3442-3443-3444-3445-3446-3447-3448-3449-3450-3451-3452-3453-3454-3455-3456-3457-3458-3459-3460-3461-3462-3463-3464-3465-3466-3467-3468-3469-3470-3471-3472-3473-3474-3475-3476-3477-3478-3479-3480-3481-3482-3483-3484-3485-3486-3487-3488-3489-3490-3491-3492-3493-3494-3495-3496-3497-3498-3499-3500-3501-3502-3503-3504-3505-3506-3507-3508-3509-3510-3511-3512-3513-3514-3515-3516-3517-3518-3519-3520-3521-3522-3523-3524-3525-3526-3527-3528-3529-3530-3531-3532-3533-3534-3535-3536-3537-3538-3539-3540-3541-3542-3543-3544-3545-3546-3547-3548-3549-3550-3551-3552-3553-3554-3555-3556-3557-3558-3559-3560-3561-3562-3563-3564-3565-3566-3567-3568-3569-3570-3571-3572-3573-3574-3575-3576-3577-3578-3579-3580-3581-3582-3583-3584-3585-3586-3587-3588-3589-3590-3591-3592-3593-3594-3595-3596-3597-3598-3599-3600-3601-3602-3603-3604-3605-3606-3607-3608-3609-3610-3611-3612-3613-3614-3615-3616-3617-3618-3619-3620-3621-3622-3623-3624-3625-3626-3627-3628-3629-3630-3631-3632-3633-3634-3635-3636-3637-3638-3639-3640-3641-3642-3643-3644-3645-3646-3647-3648-3649-3650-3651-3652-3653-3654-3655-3656-3657-3658-3659-3660-3661-3662-3663-3664-3665-3666-3667-3668-3669-3670-3671-3672-3673-3674-3675-3676-3677-3678-3679-3680-3681-3682-3683-3684-3685-3686-3687-3688-3689-3690-3691-3692-3693-3694-3695-3696-3697-3698-3699-3700-3701-3702-3703-3704-3705-3706-3707-3708-3709-3710-3711-3712-3713-3714-3715-3716-3717-3718-3719-3720-3721-3722-3723-3724-3725-3726-3727-3728-3729-3730-3731-3732-3733-3734-3735-3736-3737-3738-3739-3740-3741-3742-3743-3744-3745-3746-3747-3748-3749-3750-3751-3752-3753-3754-3755-3756-3757-3758-3759-3760-3761-3762-3763-3764-3765-3766-3767-3768-3769-3770-3771-3772-3773-3774-3775-3776-3777-3778-3779-3780-3781-3782-3783-3784-3785-3786-3787-3788-3789-3790-3791-3792-3793-3794-3795-3796-3797-3798-3799-3800-3801-3802-3803-3804-3805-3806-3807-3808-3809-3810-3811-3812-3813-3814-3815-3816-3817-3818-3819-3820-3821-3822-3823-3824-3825-3826-3827-3828-3829-3830-3831-3832-3833-3834-3835-3836-3837-3838-3839-3840-3841-3842-3843-3844-3845-3846-3847-3848-3849-3850-3851-3852-3853-3854-3855-3856-3857-3858-3859-3860-3861-3862-3863-3864-3865-3866-3867-3868-3869-3870-3871-3872-3873-3874-3875-3876-3877-3878-3879-3880-3881-3882-3883-3884-3885-3886-3887-3888-3889-3890-3891-3892-3893-3894-3895-3896-3897-3898-3899-3900-3901-3902-3903-3904-3905-3906-3907-3908-3909-3910-3911-3912-3913-3914-3915-3916-3917-3918-3919-3920-3921-3922-3923-3924-3925-3926-3927-3928-3929-3930-3931-3932-3933-3934-3935-3936-3937-3938-3939-3940-3941-3942-3943-3944-3945-3946-3947-3948-3949-3950-3951-3952-3953-3954-3955-3956-3957-3958-3959-3960-3961-3962-3963-3964-3965-3966-3967-3968-3969-3970-3971-3972-3973-3974-3975-3976-3977-3978-3979-3980-3981-3982-3983-3984-3985-3986-3987-3988-3989-3990-3991-3992-3993-3994-3995-3996-3997-3998-3999-4000-4001-4002-4003-4004-4005-4006-4007-4008-4009-4010-4011-4012-4013-4014-4015-4016-4017-4018-4019-4020-4021-4022-4023-4024-4025-4026-4027-4028-4029-4030-4031-4032-4033-4034-4035-4036-4037-4038-4039-4040-4041-4042-4043-4044-4045-4046-4047-4048-4049-4050-4051-4052-4053-4054-4055-4056-4057-4058-4059-4060-4061-4062-4063-4064-4065-4066-4067-4068-4069-4070-4071-4072-4073-4074-4075-4076-4077-4078-4079-4080-4081-4082-4083-4084-4085-4086-4087-4088-4089-4090-4091-4092-4093-4094-4095-4096-4097-4098-4099-4100-4101-4102-4103-4104-4105-4106-4107-4108-4109-4110-4111-4112-4113-4114-4115-4116-4117-4118-4119-4120-4121-4122-4123-4124-4125-4126-4127-4128-4129-4130-4131-4132-4133-4134-4135-4136-4137-4138-4139-4140-4141-4142-4143-4144-4145-4146-4147-4148-4149-4150-4151-4152-4153-4154-4155-4156-4157-4158-4159-4160-4161-4162-4163-4164-4165-4166-4167-4168-4169-4170-4171-4172-4173-4174-4175-4176-4177-4178-4179-4180-4181-4182-4183-4184-4185-4186-4187-4188-4189-4190-4191-4192-4193-4194-4195-4196-4197-4198-4199-4200-4201-4202-4203-4204-4205-4206-4207-4208-4209-4210-4211-4212-4213-4214-4215-4216-4217-4218-4219-4220-4221-4222-4223-4224-4225-4226-4227-4228-4229-4230-4231-4232-4233-4234-4235-4236-4237-4238-4239-4240-4241-4242-4243-4244-4245-4246-4247-4248-4249-4250-4251-4252-4253-4254-4255-4256-4257-4258-4259-4260-4261-4262-4263-4264-4265-4266-4267-4268-4269-4270-4271-4272-4273-4274-4275-4276-4277-4278-4279-4280-4281-4282-4283-4284-4285-4286-4287-4288-4289-4290-4291-4292-4293-4294-4295-4296-4297-4298-4299-4300-4301-4302-4303-4



35  
from pre-page

F.S. may kindly see my note of the 10th October. He may wish to obtain P.M.'s orders on:

- (a) Whether any steps should be taken to bring back the ashes of Netaji to India? The latest orders may be seen in the summary of the majority report at flag 'L' (para 15).
- (b) Whether the box containing certain other relics of Netaji collected at the time of the air crash should remain with the National Museum or be transferred to some other suitable place? P.M.'s earlier orders on this point are at flag 'R'.

*J.M.H.*  
( J.S. MEHTA )  
25/10/57  
Deputy Secretary (E)  
Tele: No. 32119

F.S.

116  
Controversy in regard to the death of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose has not yet ended, at least so far as some members of his family are concerned. Prime Minister decided, therefore, on receipt of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report that no attempt should yet be made to bring the ashes of Netaji back to India.

2. For the same reason, the sealed box containing the relics of Netaji Bose should continue to be kept in the National Museum.

3. No further action need be taken at this stage.  
*S. Dutt*  
(S. Dutt)  
29-10-57

DS(E)

117  
Issue D.O. letter dictated and with reference to para 2 put up a U.O. note to the National Museum.

*J.M.H.*  
( J.S. MEHTA )  
29/10/57

NGO



Ministry of External Affairs.  
NGO Section

(36)

Reference DS(E)'s note on prepage:

A fair u.o. note to the Education Ministry is put up.

-A  
30.10.57  
30/10  
DS(E)

10/11/57  
30/10

Signature  
119-A  
mks  
30/10  
(1550E)



① 37

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

I am sending you some photographs of my visit to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo.

2. Just before I left Japan, I heard that Shri Amiya Bose, son of Shri Sarat Chandra Bose, had reached Tokyo. He had previously, when I was in India, informed me that he was going there. I should like you to write to our Ambassador at Tokyo to find out from him what Shri Amiya Bose did in Tokyo. Did he go to our Embassy? Did he visit this Renkoji Temple?

J. Nehru

(J. Nehru)  
25.11.1957

Issued  
27.11.

FS

Issue (121-A)

Mha copy of  
FS letter to Shri  
Jha.

B(E)  
Bmt  
28/11

122 27/11

AS(E) Will AS(XP) be interested?

B. K. Acharya  
28/11

P/246/FS

64014/95(E)

5039/11/57

123  
DS (XP) (or DP 10) may please see  
if any of these photographs can be published  
at this stage

28/11

124  
29/11

DS(XP) we have retained the photographs.  
one of the photographs has already  
been published.

P. P. H. K. G. C.  
28/11

1612-DX

DS(E.A.)

125  
NGO section may see and kindly say whether any  
reply to F.S.'s letter at Sl No 2 was received by them.  
In case they did not receive it, we would remind them accordingly.

18.2.58

CF 5112-A  
8117-A



38

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

.....

NGO Section may kindly see and remove 11 copies  
of Memorandum No.F.25(4)NGO dated 6th September, 1956  
alongwith one draft which has been found lying in  
U.S(C&S)'s almira.

D.O. No. 168-USCC(43)/SE.

129 12/2 (1956)  
18/2

copies and  
draft destroyed  
by burning

4

21/2/58

et. no. 91 in  
S/c. report  
(Report being  
1-10-1956)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
NGO Section

(39)

D.5141-NGO/58

S.No.129-A (FR)

Put up with reference., previous papers  
and a brief note.

Sd/- B.K.Acharya  
5/9/58

Submitted with papers.

On Government's instructions our Ambassador  
in Tokyo took over possession of gold, jewellery etc.  
from one Mr. Murthi, the then custodian in Tokyo.  
Details of the items of the 'Treasure' may kindly be  
seen at S.No.40-B. Besides this, the amount of  
¥ 20,000 handed over in cash by Shri Iyer, in the  
then Japanese currency, was subsequently transferred  
to India (equal to Rs.265/10/-) and passed on to  
the INA Relief Fund.

It was not possible to make a more detailed  
list of the items of the 'Treasure' as the packages  
contained quantities of broken bits of jewellery.  
On PM's directions the articles were deposited in  
the National Museum.

As for an enquiry on Netaji's collections,  
we agreed with our Ambassador that investigations,  
if any, should be confidential and ~~would be~~ without  
causing any embarrassment to the Indian Mission.

*This should be resubmitted  
on my return from tour.  
I see no urgency.*

*B.K.Acharya*

*Our Ambassador may  
have spoken to F.S. about  
this at Tokyo. Put up to-*

*18.9.58  
18/9  
JS(E)*

*29/9  
hfo  
27/9/58  
27/9  
JS(E)*



RS. on return for his (40)  
instructions.

B. K. Acharya  
3/10

45-1283  
3/10  
FS

85E/1284/58

D.5324-93

I think the best course will be for Shri Jha to take up the matter with the Japanese Foreign Office. He can transmit to them the information which has reached the Embassy and ask the Foreign Office for their advice as to how best this matter could be pursued. I also think that it should be made clear to the Japanese authorities that the Government of India have no intention of entering upon any protracted civil proceedings in this matter. The Ambassador may refer to the high esteem and veneration in which the memory of the late Shri Bose is held in India and add that apart from the sentimental value of anything connected with him, it would be in keeping with the late Shri Bose's struggle for giving a better deal to the poor people of his country to let any treasure left by him be utilised for some humanitarian purpose.

(S. Dutt)  
11-10-58

JSE

Issue d.o. below.

DS(E)

B. K. Acharya  
(B. K. Acharya)  
13-10-1958

135-A



(41)  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NGO Section

Dy. No. 6584-NGO/58

S. No. 136\_A (FR)

Papers urgently please.

Sd/- J. S. Mehta.  
29/11/58

Submitted with papers. Minutes 115 and 116 Flag 'Z'  
and S. Nos. 163-A (para 15 flagged 'L') and 118-A (Flag 'W')  
are relevant.

In this connection it may be recalled that there  
have been a few questions on Parliament on the subject.

*1/12/58.  
You  
DS(E)*

137

JS may kindly see the FR from our First Secretary  
in Tokyo. The Japanese Government have informally  
enquired whether we intend removing the ashes of Netaji  
Subash Chandra Bose from Japan.

2. While, in principle, the PM had approved that we  
would bring the ashes back with due ceremony to India,  
action has been kept pending in view of the dissenting  
report of Netaji's brother, who was on the Enquiry Committee  
appointed in 1956. It seems the family is still not  
reconciled to the evidence of the death of Netaji in the  
air crash in Taiwan.

3. The question for decision is whether despite this  
hint, we should allow the ashes to remain in the Renkoji  
Temple at least for the time being or ~~if possible~~ <sup>if it is desirable</sup> possible  
controversy consider repatriating ~~to~~ to India. Prima facie  
unless the Japanese reaffirm this demand in earnest, it may  
be expedient to leave the ashes where they are at least  
for sometime more.

JS(E)

*J. S. Mehta*  
(J. S. Mehta)  
2.12.58

138

DS(E)'s note above may be seen. While it is true that the  
Japanese Foreign Office have not yet pressed us strongly regarding  
the removal of the ashes of Netaji Bose, it would be apparent from the  
FR. that Mr. Miyake has given sufficient hints to indicate that the

... contd.



From pre-page.

(42)

Japanese Govt would like the removal of the ashes to India to be arranged early. Ambassador Jha, with whom I discussed the question, was of the view that a more formal approach from the Japanese Foreign Ministry was not likely in view of the political background of the present Japanese Government who would not like to be associated publicly with the handing over of Shri Bose's ashes.

2. The ashes have been at the Renkoji Temple for a long time and the priest of the temple has suggested to us more than once that the ashes should be removed to India.

2. I mentioned to Shri Jha our difficulties in the matter connected with the attitude of Shri Bose's family as well as of some of his followers in West Bengal. Shri Jha was of the view that even if a memorial to Netaji Bose could not be considered at this stage, the ashes at least should be brought to India quietly and kept in the custody of Government.

3. Even as regards the attitude of Shri Bose's followers in West Bengal, FS is aware of the recent agitation in Calcutta over the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. The demand of the majority of the agitators was that the statue of Netaji Bose should first be put up before <sup>any</sup> the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. This would seem to indicate that even some of Netaji Bose's followers may now have reconciled themselves to putting up a memorial for Netaji Bose. FS may like to consult PM and also write to Dr. B.C. Roy for his views regarding the removal of Netaji's ashes.

95E/2391/58

D. 6589-9

B. K. Acharya  
(B. K. Acharya)  
3.12. '58

FS

139

I shall be going to Calcutta on Dec 19 & discuss this matter with Dr. Roy. Please put up on 18.12.58

S. K. Acharya  
12.12.58

Returned by  
Jd  
he called  
12.12.58  
10/12/58



43

SECRET

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

I had a discussion with Dr. B.C. Roy in Calcutta about the matter mentioned in the attached copy of a letter from our Embassy in Tokyo. Dr. Roy told me that the members of the Forward Bloc in Bengal are still protesting that Shri Subhas Bose is not dead. Dr. Roy sent for two leaders in my presence and asked them to reconsider their attitude. They promised to do so. Let us await a further communication from Dr. Roy.

*[Signature]*

(S. Dutt)  
24-12-58.

D 7002-75

G.E/2793/58

JSE

*BMA*  
*26/12*

*SE*

*127/44*

*NG*

*RS*  
*27/12/58*



Ministry of External Affairs.

The Secretary to the President should see. As the President was leaving the Renkhoji temple at Tokyo (I was in the third car with the Chief of Protocol) a gentleman handed over to me an envelope addressed to the President. This envelope contained a letter and a photograph of Netaji Subhas Bose with the General Officer Commanding of the Japanese forces at Bangkok. In fact it was a copy of an original photograph. As far as I recollect I handed this over to Shri Handa (or ~~was~~ it the MSP) with a request to place it before the President. Will the Secretary to President kindly find out where the photograph is and let us know?

(S. Dutt)  
6-11-58.

The Secretary to the President.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE  
PRESIDENT OF INDIA.

Dy. No 604-FR/58

Date 7/11/58

The letter of 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. from A. Nakamura

and the 2 photographs which accompanied it together with the envelope in which they came - were sent to the President. The President has <sup>said</sup> ~~decided~~ that they may be sent to the Foreign Secy if desired.

I am sending them herewith in a sealed cover

Asst. Secy.  
8-11-58

Foreign Secy. (S. Dutt).

S.P.O.K.O. NO: D. 604 - FR/58 dt. 8.11.58.

JSE

8.11.58

Returned to Nyo for safe custody.

B. Z. Deharaya

17/2/59

14/11/58  
JSE  
Nyo.



45

TOP SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs

I have spoken to F.S. and propose to reply to Shri P.K.Banerjee as in my letter which I am placing on the file. Before I do so, however, I would be glad if D.S.(C) could kindly go through the enclosure carefully. and He may have some suggestions to make.

(K.L. Menta)  
10. 3. 61

668-JS(E)/61

DS(C)

5 have discussed with JS(E). Pl. issue letter.

288-DS(C)/61

Boojish Mishra.  
15/3.

US(C)

NSO may pl. line the letter and keep the ph  
Hansen  
16.3.61

NSO

DR  
16/3



ASHES OF NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE

On November 23, 1953, the Priest of the Renkoji temple, Tokyo wrote to the Prime Minister the following letter :

"I am the priest of Renkoji, Buddhist temple in the suburbs of Tokyo City. I have the honour to send this letter to you, guided by the soul of the late Sbath Chandra Bose ji. I have been keeping the a-shes of Netaji safely, and praying for the repose of his soul since September 18 in 1945. Eight years have already passed since that time. Japan was under Occupation eight years ago, during which Japanese people were living their stormy life in social confusion. Therefore, apprehensive of consequences, none would accept Netaji's ashes to keep it safely.

"I, a stranger to the late Netaji, was asked to keep the ashes by people who were strangers to me including Indians of whom I have never heard since that time. I thought anyone's soul should be warmly worshipped under whatever circumstances. According to such belief as a religionist who serve the spiritual world, I have secretly been guarding Netaji's ashes at the risk of my life. I have been so watchful that even small noises at midnight startle me.

"In June 1951, Ex-Indian Ambassador to Japan, His Excellency, K.K. Chettur, invited me to his official residence. And I was officially asked to keep the ashes by him, as the representative of the Indian Government. The witness was Mr. Tamura, Chief of the Ceremony Section of the Foreign Office of Japan. So my responsibility and duties for keeping the ashes have become more important.

"Frankly speaking, I must inform you that, in spite of many inconveniences and trouble I underwent in keeping the ashes, I have never received any help privately and officially. But I believe I can keep up Netaji's soul perfectly by recognizing the importance of duties assigned me and with my strong belief as a religionist.

not

"Now Japan is/under Occupation. The peaceful relations between Japan and India have been reestablished. So, it is meaningless and pity for the late Netaji that his ashes should be kept in a temple of a foreign country, lonely and secretly, after all his vain efforts to bring about the independence of India and happiness of Asia. I think now is the time when such a significant plan as vivifies the historical achievements and sacred spirit of Netaji eternally for both Asia and mankind should be adopted.

"During the latest equinox week, I dreamed a strange dream of Netaji two nights on end. The dream was enough to make me lose the peace of my mind as a religionist.



"Such is the background of my taking the liberty of expressing my personal view in this letter, which I write as a religionist and a priest who is charged with such an important responsibility by the Indian Government.

"I should be much obliged if you would kindly understand me, and send me, directly if possible, any suggestions you may have as to the disposal of the late Netaji's ashes."

2. The Indian Embassy in Tokyo was asked to thank the Priest and also to help him in any way the Ambassador thought proper including financially. The Embassy thanked the Priest and told him that at the proper time the ashes would be taken to India. They also offered him financial assistance which the Priest declined to accept saying that he had kept the ashes voluntarily because of his high regard for Subash Babu, which made it impossible for him to accept any money. He wanted a public statement from us regarding the genuineness of the ashes so that the Indian visitors who had been behaving with disrespect would stop doing so. He also wanted a receptacle for keeping the ashes. The Embassy added that the Priest had genuine regard for Subash Babu and this ~~is~~ derived from his sincere, though metaphysical and ill-founded, belief, that Japan's Asian venture, if successful, would have been the fulfilment of a noble and humanitarian purpose. However, the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo came to Delhi soon after this and suggested that no action <sup>might</sup> be taken about the casket etc. as he would try to collect funds in Burma and take the casket from there.



48

On 23rd June 1954, our Ambassador in Tokyo wrote :

"The Priest of the Renkoji temple is anxious for a recognition of his own status as the keeper of the ashes. Opinion of Indians here is divided. Any recognition, therefore, would be a source of controversy. It would not so much matter about the Indians locally, but the opinion in Bengal refuses to accept the fact of Netaji's death and, therefore, of the genuineness of the ashes. I would, therefore, suggest that so long as we can, we should try and keep things as they are until opinion in Bengal changes to accept the fact of his death."

3. In July 1955, the Embassy asked for Ministry's instructions as to whether they could participate in a memorial service for Subash Chandra Bose being organised by the Priest of Renkoji Temple. The Ministry's reply was : "Prime Minister stated in Parliament two years ago that, in the circumstances, we had to accept the fact of death. Therefore, there is no difficulty in our taking up this position publicly." In August-September 1955, there was some controversy over the memorial service. In this connection, the following extract from the telegram from our Embassy in Tokyo explains the position :

"Briefly a second service was held by Renkoji Temple authorities on 18th September. Japanese Government having erroneously decided against representation at 18th August service changed their previous stand about attendance at a private memorial service in Temple and attended this second service. Japanese Foreign Office was warned clearly that this behaviour of the Temple authorities in holding a second service would arouse controversy particularly if Japanese government were represented in any manner specially in face of their abstention from the correct memorial service on 18th August. We suspect Japanese are somehow anxious for transfer of ashes and have therefore encouraged controversial publicity now. Our stand is that having attended the correct 10th anniversary Memorial Service on 18th August we should not be pressed into attending another service so soon thereafter otherwise Japanese may hold a service every month as they have hinted they well might just to accentuate controversy and show that India is defaulting in taking over the ashes. So far as the Temple authorities are concerned they seem to be looking forward to some monetary reward from us for keeping the ashes. Would request your clear instructions after you have seen our detailed report mentioned above."

\*By ch



There was some controversy in the Parliament about this Memorial Service, in the course of which the Prime Minister stated that the "Government have felt that in this matter (question of bringing Netaji's ashes to India) no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose."

After this, "The Netaji Enquiry Committee" headed by Shaw Nawaj Khan was constituted. In August 1955 this Committee submitted its Report. It had come to the conclusion that Netaji met his death on 18th August 1945 in a plane crash at Taihoku in Formosa. Two days later on the 20th, his body was cremated and the ashes kept temporarily in Honganji temple in that City. On 7th September 1945, they were flown to Tokyo and have since been lying in the Renkoji temple. The Report recommended that Netaji's ashes, which had been in Tokyo for 11 years, should be brought to India in a befitting manner and interred with a suitable monument over them. The Govt. of India, however, were of the view that in deciding this question, regard had to be paid to the feelings of the members of his family. It would be most unfortunate if a controversy arose over what should be the sacred ceremonies, and, therefore, it was best to leave the question of bringing over the ashes to India for future consideration.



(50)

In July 1957, the Priest of Renkoji Temple again wrote to the Prime Minister asking whether the Government of India would now, in view of the Enquiry Committee report, like to consider the question of bringing the ashes back. The Embassy in Tokyo was requested to suitably inform the Priest that the controversy in regard to the death had not yet ended, at least so far as some members of Netaji's family were concerned and that, in view of this, no attempt should be made to bring the ashes back to India. The present arrangements should continue. In November 1957, the Priest again wrote to the Prime Minister saying :

"On November 8, I received a letter from His Excellency Ambassador Jha, telling that you had asked me to agree to preserving Netaji's ashes safely further hereafter. Of course, I agree with you of this matter. But I feel Netaji's soul is anxious to return to his fatherland as soon as possible."

In November 1958, the Embassy reported as follows :

"Last month, I went to see Mr. Miyake, Deputy Director of the Asian affairs Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He asked me when the Government of India proposed to remove Shri Bose's ashes. He explained that this was a personal enquiry as the priest had been feeling uncomfortable about the continued presence of the ashes in the temple. According to Mr. Miyake, it is not the custom in Japan for ashes to be kept continuously in temples. They are normally retained for a short period and then transferred to the family grave or shrine. Moreover, the priest also feels that he is getting old and that he should not leave the ashes to others after his death. I explained to Mr. Miyake that there had been no request from either Mr. Bose's family in Austria or his relatives in India and we may be embarrassed by having these ashes in India since, among Hindus, the ashes are cast into a river or otherwise scattered. Mr. Miyake said that, in any case, it would be more appropriate for the ashes to be disposed of in India than retained indefinitely in Japan.

"I have reported this matter to the Ambassador who agrees that there is no force in Mr. Miyake's argument particularly when we are officially taking steps to transfer the ashes to Shri Rash Behari Bose and arrangements are being made for keeping them in India.

"This matter is being reported for your



(57)

information and for any comments  
you may wish to make. I would also like  
some guidance as to what I should say  
to Mr. Miyake ~~and~~ if he again  
raises this question, as I feel he will."

*copy sent*



(52)

Confidential

D.O.No.55-CM  
Chief Minister  
West Bengal.

Calcutta.

January 20, 1961

My dear Jawaharlal,

Your letter No.2474/PMH/60 of December 2, 1960, as also the letter dated January 11, 1961, from your Private Secretary regarding ashes of Subhas. I have asked the family but they do not seem to have any definite idea about it.

Yours affectionately.

Sd/- B.C. Roy.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Prime Minister,  
New Delhi.



(53)

D.O.No.815-CM.

Chief Minister

West Bengal

Calcutta.

The 4th December, 1960.

My dear Jawahar,

Your letter.

I will try and find out about the arrangements for Subhas Bose's ashes. I do not know what the present attitude of the members of the family is. As you know, Subhas Bose's brother, Suresh Bose, is still of the opinion that Subhas is alive.

I will find out and let you know.

Yours affectionately,

Sd/- B.C. Roy.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Prime Minister,  
New Delhi.



(54)

Confidential

No. 2474-PMH/60

December 2, 1960.

My dear Bidhan,

On the agenda paper of the Lok Sabha today there was a resolution recommending to Government to make appropriate arrangements to fetch Subhas Bose's ashes from Tokyo and put up a memorial to him in front of the Red Fort in Delhi. This resolution was not reached. It may, however, come up some time later in the Session.

Our approach to this question has been in the past that we shall gladly help, but the initiative should come from Subhas Bose's family. If they wish to bring the ashes here, we shall make appropriate arrangements.

As for a memorial, I do not think that such a thing before the Red Fort in Delhi can be done. We have, in fact, reserved that place for a big monument - a memorial to all the martyrs of the Indian freedom struggle, and Roy Choudhury is making it. I should imagine that the ashes, if brought here, should be kept in Calcutta.

I should like to have your advice in this matter as to what attitude I should take up.

Yours affectionately,

Sd/- Jawaharlal Nehru.

Dr. B.C. Roy,  
Chief Minister of West Bengal,  
Calcutta.



(55)

TOP SECRET  
IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs

Prime Minister's Secretariat may kindly

see the enclosed letter from the Embassy of India, Tokyo. Director (East Asia) has asked for a comprehensive note stating the reasons for our earlier decision, and the demand made by some for bringing Netaji's ashes to India. We were able to find files Nos. 25/4/NGO-51 Vol. I and 25/4/NGO/101111 in the NGO section. However, the NGO records are not complete. It is possible that some papers are in the PM's Secretariat. We are particularly looking for correspondence on this matter following a letter from our Embassy in November 1958, part of which has been reproduced on page 5 of the incomplete comprehensive note enclosed herewith. It would be much appreciated if Prime Minister's Secretariat could kindly let us have any papers they might have on the subject.

B.P. Agarwal

(B.P. AGARWAL)

UNDER SECRETARY (EAST ASIA)

Prime Minister's Secretariat (Shri Natwar Singh, D.S.)

M.E.A. U.O. No. 8300-NGO/66 dated 7-10-66.

Urgent

S.D. Del.  
PPs pl.

K. Natwar Singh  
7x 66

7x

PPs



From overleaf.

Prime Minister's Secretariat

153  
A copy of the correspondence exchanged between the late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and the late Chief Minister of West Bengal on the subject in December 1960 and January, 1961 is placed below. No other relevant paper pertaining to the period subsequent to November, 1958 is available with this Secretariat.

K. Natwar Singh  
(K. Natwar Singh)  
Deputy Secretary

Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.P. Agarwal)  
P.M.'s Sectt. U.O.No.2(381)/60-66-PM dated 19-X-66

I discuss with Dir (EA). Necessary information for the visit to Tokyo was taken by him. Dir (EA) may kindly see regarding a reply to Shri Dixit's letter to DIR.

There were one or two perhwaunt question of late. These files are being sent separately.

Dir (EA)

Bhagwan  
28/11

4303/Dir EA

5559-DE/66

15  
If the Wankoji temple insists on handing over the ashes to us, we could bring them over to India and keep them securely in the National Museum along with Netaji's other relics. If we do this openly making it clear that the problem is still not finally solved, the family of Subhash Babu cannot very well object. The question of their dispersal according to Hindu beliefs can be taken up after some more time passes and there is no probability of Netaji's survival. It does not seem very fair to continue to burden these foreigners with our problem.

A. K. Damodaran).  
8.xi.66.

Dir. EA



(from prepage)

The question of the disposal of the ashes of Netaji now kept in Tokyo temple is a very complicated one. As far as the Government is concerned, they have accepted the findings of the Shaw Nawaj Khan Committee and have no difficulty in treating the ashes as those of Netaji. It is, however, a different matter for the family of Netaji who still believe that he is alive. I, therefore, doubt very much whether the family will accept the idea of the ashes being kept in the Netaji Museum in Calcutta. Of course, other articles belonging to Netaji are exhibited in this museum but they are different because they are not intended to show that he is no more. Far from agreeing to the ashes being brought to India and exhibited in the museum, the relatives, family as well as political, might raise an agitation against the Government for trying to assert that Netaji is dead. Therefore, unless the family gives its consent, it would not be appropriate to try to bring the ashes to India now. It seems to me that the only thing we can do at present is to give some financial assistance to the Priest who is now looking after the ashes in the Tokyo temple. I shall be grateful if F.S. will see this and give his advice.

5859- DEA/46

A

Nm, *[Signature]*  
(K.R. Narayanan)  
Director (East Asia)  
21/11/66

157

F.S.

I agree with A  
F.H. may see.

T/973/FS/66  
22/11/66

158

*[Handwritten signature]*  
24/11

T. 11/66 FM

FS/

Let us discuss how we can proceed  
in regard to 'A'. Wary - G

DS (EA)

28/11



from pre-page:

Discussed with Dir. EA.

2. As long as there are some people who genuinely believe that these ashes are not those of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, it would be improper and inadvisable for us to take charge of them. At the same time, the fact that the Rankoji Temple and this particular priest have so devotedly looked after the Urn containing the ashes and Netaji's other belongings for all these years shows their great affection and loyalty towards our country and the memory of a great national hero. Such devotion deserves some recognition from us. Without in any way committing ourselves to the identity of the ashes, we could recompense the Priest and the Temple by some annual grant which would not be for the custody of these ashes but as a reward for their long-standing loyalty to India. This, while formally the purpose of the grant would be in recognition of their services to our country, it would, in fact, serve as some sort of compensation for the trouble they are taking in looking after the Urn containing the ashes. A payment for the custody of the Urn itself would be open to many objections but by thus expressing our gratitude in tangible terms, we would earn the appreciation of the Priest and the Temple and would also ensure that the Urn and other Indian property now lying in the Temple would be properly looked after.

3. An annual payment of Rs. 5,000 seems to be sufficient for this purpose. We could, in the first instance, sanction it as a grant for 1967 and get it renewed every year.

4. In view of the political importance of the subject, we hope there would be no difficulty in finding the funds for this purpose. It would be most unhappy development if, due to some default on the part of these custodians of the Urn or the Temple authorities, some damage is done to this Urn or its contents and it is later on confirmed that the ashes are those of Netaji Bose. This annual expenditure will not be too much to pay in order to ensure their safety. Even if it finally transpires that the ashes are not genuine, still this amount would, in no way, be an excessive compensation for the Priest's general friendliness towards India as shown in the devotion with which he has looked after the Urn and other property of Netaji. However, we do not know which Ministry would be able to provide funds for such a purpose. The Ministry of Education, Cultural Department, might have some funds for the encouragement of friendship of India with other countries through cultural media, either directly or through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. Since such a gesture would definitely be conducive towards promoting Indo-Japanese friendship, we could request that Ministry to let us know whether they could spare some funds for this purpose. Another source would be the Ministry of Finance. We shall be very grateful if Director (Finance) could kindly examine this suggestion and indicate whether it would be possible for us to get some funds from our own Ministry. The background of the case is explained in earlier notes from page 1 and the letter to Shri Narayanan from Shri Dixit of 26th Sept. (below).

(A. K. Damodaran).

15.xii.66.

Dir. (Finance).



(from pre-page)

161

It is, indeed, difficult for me to express any firm view in regard to the incidence of expenditure on an extremely delicate purpose. If it were a question of making payment for custody of "the ashes", it would, perhaps, have been in order to suggest that the Ministry of Education should meet the expenditure. But, the ashes having not been pronounced genuine, one has to find justification for incurring the expenditure on their safe retention abroad. It is not clear from what source the expenditure was incurred on the Netaji Enquiry Committee in 1956. In any case, if the purpose of the expenditure is not to be disclosed - which, I presume, is the intention -, it can be met only from Discretionary Grants of this Ministry. We have no funds for this in our budget for the current year, nor have any steps been taken to make provision for this in the budget estimates for the next financial year. If the intention is to start the first instalment of Rs.5,000/- from the next financial year, we should make a specific provision in the budget for this purpose. I suggest that the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance may be taken to including the necessary provision under the Discretionary Grant allotted to this Ministry for being expended through the Missions.

A

*V. Doraiswamy*  
(V. Doraiswamy)  
Director (Finance)  
16.12.66

- 162 -

D.S. (E. A).

'A' also:

28 Dec. agrees, we may ask Tokyo about their comments about above proposal before we take up the matter with M/F.

*Adambay*

- 163 -

24/12

*Picture. Issued to Sri Desai.*

*Adambay*  
24/12/66

N.G.O.

TS. 106 - Dir (F) / 66  
12/12/66



60

-12-

Dyno 920/NGO/67 . . . . . RR (SFO 165-A)

on file  
Sd: A. Damodaran

Submitted please.

27/67  
U.S. (F.A.)  
D.S. (S.A.)

2/2/67  
H. Aggarwal  
2/2/67

66

This case concerns the custody of the ashes of Netaji in the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. The Chief Priest had suggested to our Embassy that he would like to hand over the ashes to us. We made a counter proposal that we could pay to the Temple a small annual grant. This would enable us to ensure safe custody of the ashes pending agreement by all parties concerned including the members of Netaji's family that the ashes are genuine.

2. Our Embassy has now informed us that the temple authorities are agreeable to the suggestion and they would continue to keep custody of the ashes.

P. 9/N

3. FS had last seen the papers in November, when he agreed to the suggestion that some financial assistance could be given to the Priest. We may now initiate action for providing the amount of Rs. 5,000 in the discretionary grant allotted to this Ministry for being expended through the Mission during the financial year 1967-68, if necessary by re-appropriation. The file can be sent to the Finance Ministry after FS has approved.

A. Damodaran  
(A. K. Damodaran).  
6.ii.67.

7/11/67 FS/RS

Dir. RA

167-  
Narayana  
8/2/67

FS.

168-  
W. J. ...  
8/4/67

KIV  
40/2

D. S. (S.A.)

Ministry of Finance may kindly see notes from Page 7 onwards explain the case. In view of the importance of the case, we should be grateful if M/F give their concurrence to include the provision for Rs 5000 in the Discretionary Grant for 67-68.  
De. Fin. Adm. (P.A.)  
A. Damodaran  
12/12/67



12/ (61)  
Ministry of Finance  
(E.A. Division)

\*\*\*

The proposal in this file is an unusual one and relates to the grant of a subsidy of about Rs.5,000/- from out of the discretionary funds with the E.A. Ministry for being paid to the authorities in charge of the Renkoji temple in Tokyo, wherein the ashes, believed to be of Netaji, have been kept all these years. The temple authorities have been, for quite some time, pressing for the custody of the ashes being taken over by us. Even though the Government of India have officially accepted the report of the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Enquiry Committee on Netaji that Netaji was killed in an air accident in September, 1945, it is felt by the E.A. Ministry that the idea of officially accepting the ashes or bringing them over to India, may not be acceptable to the family of Netaji and other political groups who have ~~ascertained~~ <sup>maintained</sup> that Netaji is not dead. With a view to avoid political and other complications, it has been proposed that the temple priest be given payment of Rs.5,000/- per annum for some years, ostensibly for the renovation and preservation of the temple. The payment is not proposed to be directly linked with the priest agreeing to retain the custody of the ashes but to be given in consideration of the temple authorities' loyalty towards India and Netaji for a number of years. Our Mission in Tokyo has reported that the chief priest is agreeable to receive this grant in the form suggested by the MEA and apparently, in consideration of the same, would not be pressing for the ashes to be taken over by us till such time as we are ready to take over the same.

2. I discussed this case with Director (East). He expressed the view that it may not be desirable or even feasible to take over the ashes and maintain the same in our Embassy on account of the attendant publicity and other difficulties including the preservation of the same in a manner befitting the memory of the deceased leader. He agrees that the grant



from pre-page:

~~76~~ (62)

if made without any stipulation is likely to be taken as permanent by the recipients and it might be difficult to stop the same in future even after the need for making such payment has ceased to exist. He is, therefore, agreeable to make it clear to the recipient that the grant is being made for an initial period of 3 years subject to review later on. By doing this, we may be able to stop payment of this grant at the most within a period of one or two years after we have taken over the custody of the ashes.

3. In view of these considerations and the political factors mentioned, we may agree to the E.A. Ministry making these payments for an initial period of 3 years. The <sup>question</sup> need ~~for~~ the renewal of this aid could be considered from time to time. As the amount involved is not much, it should be possible for the E.A. Ministry to meet the expenditure within their existing budget provision under discretionary grant, for the current year

*Anishuram*  
(S.P. Krishnamurthy)  
22.2.1967

~~IS (SAR)~~

171

I would suggest an initial payment of Rs 5000  
without giving the impression that it is an annual affair  
The provision could be renewed from year to year.

Dir (East) - Shree Narayanan.

*Ind Sundan*  
24.2.67

172  
Please write to Tokyo appropriately of the  
How if the file is Admin. Division.

Narayana

~~AS (EA)~~

173  
D. S (RST) may kindly see before  
we write to Tokyo.

*Advanth*

27/2

DS(RST)

5-131-DS(EA)/6  
23/2  
0022-42406/67  
23-2-67.  
TS-23/200/67

*24/2/67*  
24/2/67



~~15~~ (63)

Reference under on pre-page.

A sanction for Rs. 5000/- has been issued in favour of Embassy of India, Tokyo, a copy of which has been placed in the file.

JS (EA) may kindly rec. He may like to reply to Shri Dixit's letter at S.No. 165-A and inform him of the issue of the sanction.  
Submitted.

~~Sh.~~  
~~6/3.~~

Adasht  
6/3/67

JS(EA)

RS-42 6 DE A/68



16- (64)

TOP SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

Issue letter to our Counsellor in Tokyo.

Mr. Kobayashi mentioned to me the question of bringing Netaji Subash Chandra Bose's ashes to India informally at the dinner given by the Secretary-I for the Japanese Delegation. I have in terms of the conversation written a letter to our Counsellor in Tokyo. The substance of this conversation was also mentioned to Ambassador Banerji who told me that he had also discussed this subject with Secretary-I although he was quite unaware of the Japanese Government's move in the matter. Secretary-I may kindly see.

Manjit Singh  
(Manjit Singh)  
Director (EA)  
31-1-1968

T. Secy-I  
3/11/68

NGO  
Secy-I.

NGO  
Dir (EA)

Pl. Pen  
6/2/68

4. NO. 1966 - NGO/68.

- F.R. - 184A.

Pl. take necessary action to sanction the payment this year.

Sd/- Manjit Singh.  
Dir (EA).  
19.2.68.

A fair sanction for Rs. 5000/- in favour of Embassy of India, Tokyo. is put OSD (IF)'s signature.

Secy. I may kindly see before you of the sanction.

OSD (IF)  
21/2

P.S. Tewari  
21.2.68



(65)

(From pre-page).

Secretary I may kindly accord approval for payment of Rs. 5,000/- towards care and custody of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes by Rev. Mochizuki of Renshoji Temple Tokyo.

*[Signature]*  
21/2/68

IS-52/6500E/68  
21/2  
T-116/2452/68  
21/2

Sey I.

*[Signature]*  
21/2/68

~~NGO~~  
OSD/1/5  
*[Signature]*  
21/2

NGO  
-2-

As Dir(EA) is aware we have made a payment of Rs 5000/- to the Priest of Renshoji temple in Tokyo twice (once in 1967 & 2nd time in Feb '68) for looking after the ashes of Late Subhash Bose which is kept in the temple.

In view of the position explained in Embassy's letter dt-21.3.68, we will have to make a payment of Rs 5000/- as an annual ad-hoc grant to the Chief Priest during the financial year 1968-69, out of the D.G. If approved, we may make a provision of this amount in the revised estimates for 1968-69.

Dir EA may kindly see for approval.

27/9/68

*[Signature]*  
22.9.68

Dir(EA)

27.9.68



From Pre-page

DYN 16171NC

We have made a provision of Rs.5000/- in current year's Budget for payment to the priest of Renkoji Temple in Tokyo for looking after the ashes of late Subash Chander Bose. The last payment was made to the Priest in Feb.'68. As discussed with Dir.(E.A.) the sanction for payment of this amount for this year may be submitted for approval to the Foreign Secretary.

9422/15/69  
18/2

1220/15/69  
18/2

Dir EA

P.S. Tella  
18-2-69

Manjit Singh 1921

18-2-69

[Signature]

6/10/64

NG

Ministry of External Affairs.  
NCO section.

For sanction for Rs. 5,000/- in favour of Embassy of India, Tokyo in part up for OSD (IF)'s signature  
OSD (Est) may kindly see.

51  
6/3

P.S. Tella  
6-3-69

Manjit Singh 1941  
6-3-69

OSD (Est)  
OSD (IF)

[Signature]  
6/3



17  
-19-  
(67)  
N.G.O. Section

D. No. 1049-NGO/70

FR - 196A

Please take up with Finance if  
necessary and get the sanction issued

Sd/- V.V. Parangpe  
27-1-70

US(J)

I gather you have previous papers.  
Will you please deal with this?

Sd/- V.V. Parangpe

N.G.O.

- 196-M  
A sum of Rs 5000/- per annum is being  
paid from D.G. since 1967 to the Priest of Runko  
Temple, Tokyo, through E/I, Tokyo, for looking  
after the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.  
This sum is being sanctioned on a year to year  
basis and the last payment was made during  
March 1969.

2. Our Ambassador at Tokyo has recommended  
continuance of this annual payment so that the ashes  
of Netaji are kept with due care and reverence by the  
Chief Priest of Runko Temple, Tokyo. We may submit  
these papers to F.S. for his approval to the payment of  
Rs 5000/- from D.G. during the current financial year.

Tshu  
29-1-70

✓ OSD(IF)  
F.S.

200-M

29.1.70  
H. Bawaringer  
201

T. 24/37/FS  
30/1/70

TS. 24/Secy(E)  
31.1.70

✓ Secy(E) 30/1/70  
201-M  
21.1.70

NGO.

202-M

For Sanction for Rs 5000/- is put up  
for OSD(IF)'s Signature.

Tshu  
2-2-70

2.2.70  
H. Bawaringer  
212

M. J. N. P.  
31/1/70

OSD(IF)  
N. B. U.



NGO SECTION

68

5-A  
54/1323/1971

5-A/1971

Flag B

Flag C  
25/4/1971-nd II  
(205-A)

Secretary(E) recommended the grant of a sum of Rs. 5,000/- as Discretionary Grant for our Ambassador in Tokyo for making effective use of our press relations in Japan, as no Discretionary Grant had earlier been placed at the disposal of the Ambassador. Accordingly a sum of Rs. 5,000/- was sanctioned in our letter of 16.1.1971. The Mission has however enquired whether this amount is meant for making the usual payment of Rs. 5,000/- to the Chief Priest, Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, where Netaji Subash Chander Bose's ashes are kept. We may clarify to the mission that the present sanction is for the Ambassador's Discretionary Grant.

2. The annual payment of Rs. 5,000/- is being sanctioned every year on receipt of request therefor from the Mission. In view of their letter at 'FR' this amount may now be sanctioned.

The approval of the Secretary(E) may be solicited.

Secy  
30/1/71

Secy  
30.1.71  
1.2.71

US (IF)  
Dir (EAT)  
Secy (E)

I have spoken to Secy E.  
The grant of Rs. 5,000/- suggested by  
Secy E. is for Ambassador's discretionary  
grant and for the Renkoji  
Temple.

U. is  
17/1

Secy E may kindly approve the  
grants:  
i) Discretionary grant of Rs. 5,000 for an Ambassador  
in Tokyo  
ii) Annual payment of Rs. 5,000 to the  
Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple  
where Netaji's ashes are kept

U. is  
17/2

11/6/1971/Secy(E)  
17.2.71  
MB/1971

Secy E.  
NGO  
Dir EAT

Secy  
17/2/71



Ref. note on page/ante

(69)

Fair sanction of Rs. 5000/-  
in favour of our Ambassador, Tokyo, for  
making annual payment to Chief Priest, Rentokji  
Temple, Tokyo. Where the ashes of Nalaji  
S. C. Bose are kept kept. is put up  
for DS (IF)'s signature.

L.W.R.T. & R.F.R. is also

A fair letter is put up also  
for signature phase.

Ramkrishna  
18/1/71

Narasimhaiah  
18/1/71

DS (IF)

N. G. O. Section

DNO. 2719-NGO/72  
Dt. 8-3-1972

F.R.

Urgent.

Sd/- P. N. Rao  
8-3-1972

A fair sanction for Rs. 5,672.42 is  
put up for approval and signature by the  
DS (IF).

A fair letter is also put up for  
approval and signature as usual.

Will be issued  
separately  
after administrative  
approval is  
awarded

Balekrishna  
8/3/72

J. S. (EA) may please see before  
issue. This is the annual payment  
to the Priest of Rentokji Temple.

DS (IF)

J. S. (EA)

Narasimhaiah  
8/3

DS (IF) Please issue the sanction  
Narasimhaiah

20/1/72 P. N. Rao  
8/3/72



D.No. NGO/73 Receipt. P-210-A/Corr.  
Dt. 1-12-1973.

Position please.

Sd/- A.N.Rao,  
17-11-1973.

This is the request from our Embassy in Tokyo for the release of funds for payment to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, for preserving the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, in his safe custody.

In this connection it may be stated that we used to pay Yen 240,000 to the Chief Priest for this purpose annually on ad-hoc-basis. As there was no request received from the Embassy last year, we have not released any funds for this project as a matter of course. If agreed, we may now issue financial sanction releasing funds for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 amounting to Rs.11,344.85 at the rate of Rs.5,672.42 per year.

Submitted for financial concurrence.

2  
11/12/73

Mumbai

11.12.73

It is not clear whether the payment for 1972-73 could be authorized in the absence of a satisfactory reply from the Embassy for not seeking the requisite sanction at the appropriate time. J.S.(EA) may plan to see for so far as sanction for the current year is concerned, we may first obtain the administrative approval of J.S.(EA).

J.S.(EA)

Could you please examine? What is our official comment on the request for a release of this payment? If yes

DS(EA) - Mr. P. S. Rao.

4/20



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

Reference JS(EA)'s note on pre-page.

2. It constitutes a somewhat unusual case involving the annual grant of a subsidy of Rs.5000 from out of the 'Discretionary Fund' of the MEA to the authorities in charge of the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, where the ashes, believed to be of Netaji, have been kept all these years. As indicated by the Note at Sl.No.170 (Flag 'A') on this file, these payments started from the year 1967 and were kept being made till the financial year 1971-72.
3. When this decision was taken in 1967, the view was expressed that even though the Government of India had officially accepted the report of the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Enquiry Committee on Netaji that Netaji was killed in an air accident in September 1945, the idea of officially accepting the ashes or bringing them over to India may not be acceptable to the family of Netaji and other political groups who have maintained that Netaji is not dead.
4. In order to avoid political and other complications, it was, therefore, decided in 1967 that the Renkoji Temple Priest be paid Rs.5000 per annum for some years, ostensibly for the renovation and preservation of the temple. Earlier the temple authorities had been, for quite some time, pressing for the custody of the ashes being taken over by the Government of India. But while deciding upon this annual payment of Rs.5000 to the temple priest the impression sought to be conveyed by us was that this payment was not to be directly linked with the priest agreeing to retain the custody of the ashes, but to be given in consideration of the temple authority's loyalty towards India and Netaji for a number of years. Our Mission in Tokyo subsequently reported that the temple priest was agreeable to this sort of an arrangement and that he would also not be pressing for the ashes to be taken over by us till such time as we are ready to take over the same.
5. Considering all this, it was, therefore, decided to initially sanction this annual payment of Rs.5000 for a period of 3 years only, so that no long-term commitment was involved on our part. It was obviously the intention of the Ministry at that stage to review this question on a year to year basis instead of making it an arrangement for an indefinite period.
6. After the expiry of this 3 year period, a fresh sanction was again issued for the year 1971-72.
7. In view of the background position given above, the following is for consideration:-
  - (a) Since no such payment was made to the Temple Priest in 1972-73, what was his reaction, if any, to this disruption of payment? Our Embassy in Tokyo should be in a position to throw some light on this.
  - (b) In case these payments are stopped, what are the chances of the Temple Priest reviving his earlier stand that we should take over these ashes? The views of our Mission in Tokyo should be sought on this also.



Contd. from pre-page

(c) Presuming that these payments are stopped and the Temple Priest starts insisting that we take over the custody of these ashes would we be in a position to do so, keeping in view the possible political and other implications?

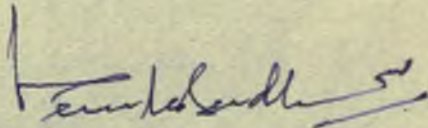
(d) If the only means by which we can ensure that the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple does not insist on our taking over these ashes is to continue making these payments to him and if we still want to avoid possible controversies in the event ~~of~~ these ashes are brought over to India, then there would appear to be no alternative, but to continue these payments. If the answers to the above questions are in the negative, then there would appear to be no reason for us to continue making these payments. In this context, it may also be mentioned that since the payments are made in Yens, the annual sum of Yen 240,000 will now work out to more than Rs.5000 on account of the Yen revaluation. Internal Finance should be in a position to work out the exact revised figure.

8. While reviewing this question, it would be interesting to recall the contents of a letter written on November 23, 1953 by the Priest of the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo to the then Prime Minister of India (Flag 'B'). One particular portion in this letter is somewhat intriguing. To quote the Priest from this letter: "I, a stranger to the late Netaji was asked to keep the ashes by people who were strangers to me including Indians of whom I have never heard since that time. xxxxxx" A remark of this nature could throw doubt on the authenticity of these ashes and it is, therefore, for consideration whether we should continue making such payments in respect of an item whose authenticity would also appear to be in some doubt.

5315-DS(10)/53

29.11.53-53/53/53  
7/53

JS(EA)

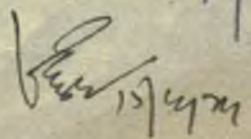
  
(P.K. Budhwar)  
Deputy Secretary (EA)  
6.12.1973

For, Let up with me  
We could free the position  
at n.h.c.d. to at Gubay  
in Tokyo & seek their reaction  
& balanced assessment.  
Do may kindly write to the

Suhay.

15-12-73  
n/y try

DS (through MCO)

  
15/12/73

Shri HSC  
24/11/74

11/12/74



73  
Secret

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
EAST ASIA DIVISION

Reference my note dated 6.12.1973 on pre-page and JS(EA)'s comments on it. Subsequently, as desired, I wrote to our Embassy in Tokyo and the reply received recently from Shri P. Johari, Minister is placed opposite. The main points raised in Shri Johari's letter are:

- (a) These annual payments to the Renkoji Temple Priest should continue and sanctions for the financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 be issued without any further delay;
- (b) The Japanese are keen that we bring the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose to India.

2. While a decision on point (b) above can perhaps be taken only in the light of various other considerations, particularly the findings of the Khosla Commission, it would appear that a decision on resuming these annual payments, including the arrears, will have to be taken soon.

3. Submitted for consideration.

*P.K. Budhwar*  
(P.K. Budhwar)  
Deputy Secretary (IC & EA)  
17.5.1974

*Through NRO*  
JS(EA)

*back*  
This file has come home today, through NRO, from the former J.S (EA)'s Office. The matter may be considered, in the light of the notes already recorded by me, so that an early decision is taken.

*13/6/74*

J.S (EA) Through NRO

*Singh (EA) many lines*

*Recd. back in  
NRO today  
17/5/74*

*25*  
*Thru NRO*



to discuss this with F.M.  
It respects for the late Vajir  
ashes can provoke powerful  
emotional responses in  
India and it may be  
desirable to fulfil commitment  
we have long accepted.

*[Signature]* 15/6/74

Sunny (East)

A/ The immediate need is to obtain sanction  
for payment to the Rankaji Temple priest for 1972-73  
and 1973-74. This has been long delayed and it  
is essential that we make the payment quickly.  
2. After this has been done, the pp. may be resubmitted,  
so that the matter can be discussed with F.M. on  
the other question of bringing the ashes back. My  
initial reaction is that we shall need to wait  
for some time for doing this in order to avoid  
creating unnecessary controversy in India. Even  
now the matter generates some heat in Parliament and  
elsewhere. We have waited so long and can wait  
a little longer.

V.E.H.  
15/6/74

F-134/5(E) 74.  
15/6/74.

DS(EA) A/ to proceed further

DS(EA) D.S (IF) is requested  
to have the necessary sanctions



for 1972-73 and 1973-74 issued very early as this matter has already suffered a good deal of delay. Our previous letter of Nov 13, 1973 to D.S. (IF) to this effect is at Flag X.

After the sanctions have been issued there have been some queries to be sent back to me for further consideration of the second question.

19/6/74

Shri HBL 15.6.74

D.S. (IF) — through N.G.O.  
(on file)

N.G.O. Section

As approved by DyCE a financial sanction for Rs. 11,344.84 (Rupees Eleven thousand three hundred forty four and paise eighty four only) for payment of annual grant to the Chief Priest, Rinkoji Temple in Japan at the rate of Rs. 5,672.42 per year for the year 1972-73 and 1973-74 is put up for Dir(IF)'s approval and signature. A fair d.o. letter <sup>intimating the nature of funds</sup> is also put up for signature.

Munshi  
20.6.74

DIA (IF)

D. N. Ranjan  
28/6/74

Shri HBL 22.6.74

Financial sanction for Rs. 11,344.84 @ Rs. 5,672.42 equivalent to Rs. 24,000 per year for the year 1972-73 and 1973-74 has since been issued. File may now be re-submitted to DS (FA) as desired by him.

43  
25/6/74

Munshi  
25.6.74

3/7/74

Shri HBL 3.7.74

DS (FA) 26.0



28-76

N. G. O. Section

T-2271-NGO/75  
Dt. 15.5.1975

Receipt

P. 216 N/Con

Revisions papers please

Sd/- N. R. Varma  
9.5.1975

DS(EA)

Please put up on file

Sd/- N. N. Marala  
12.5.1975

As desired, the relevant file on the subject is put up.

15/5/75

afternoon  
16.5.75

DS(EAI)

This is about the annual payment of ₹ 240,000 to the Chief Priest of Rerkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are kept.

J.S. (EA) is aware the annual payment for financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 was made last year.

In view of the position explained in the Embassy's letter dated 8th May, 1974 (Flag (X) and also Secretary (E)'s note dated 15 June, 1974 ('B' on page 26 N), it would appear that the annual payment will have to be made for 1975.

Submitted for consideration.

Marala  
(Miss) (N. Marala)  
Deputy Secretary (EAI)  
19.5.75

J.S. (EA)

Dis (65) may pl. agree to the sanction of ₹ 240,000. This has been a recurring payment.

26/5 NGO  
Dis (EA)

25/5  
Please put up sanction.  
Navasirgale  
2/6

SL 4/6  
26/5 S-O-NGO



(Furn per HPR)

A fair D.O. letter is put up for approval and signature.

A check sanction is also put up for approval.

5.6.75

Handwritten signature

DIR (IF)

NGO Section

JS(UN) desires to see this file  
Subtd fl.

4/8/75

Handwritten signature  
1.8.75

This is about the annual payment of Rs 200,000 to the Chief Priest of Panchajanya Temple where the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi are kept.

2.8.75 (A) is aware the annual payment for financial years 1973-74 and 1974-75 was made last year.

In view of the position explained in the Embassy's letter dated 28th May, 1974 (X) and also Secretary (C)'s note dated 18 June, 1974 (15) on page 26 B, it would appear that the annual payment will have to be made for 1975.

Submitted for consideration.

(Place) (W. Narain)  
Secretary (C) (LAI)  
18.6.75

(A)



D.2771-NGO/76 - Receipt

"Previous papers pl."

sd/- Miss N. Haralu  
28/6

In this connection, ~~former~~ DS(EAI)'s notes on P 28/ante may pl. be seen. The sanction for Rs.5672/40 for the last financial year was issued vide P 217/A.

Subtd on file pl.

Div(EA)

Reference FR.I. The annual payment of Y240,000 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subhas Bose are kept is due for 1976.

2. Meanwhile, we have also received the FR.II from our Ambassador in Tokyo suggesting that action might be initiated in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs for arriving at a final decision on the repatriation of Netaji's ashes to India.

3. As it might take some time to process the Ambassador's suggestion, the annual payment for 1976 may be made.

4. In this connection kindly see our Embassy's letter F/X and Secretary(E)'s note dated June 15, 1974 on page 26.

( N.N.Haralu )  
Director(EA)  
7.7.76.

JS(EA)  
Secretary(E)





R.S.Kalha  
First Secy.(P&I)

No.TOK/753/T.S./69-II

~~TOP SECRET~~

EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

① Coor  
2771-N4976  
30/6

21 June 1976.

My dear Miss Haralu,

Please refer to correspondence resting with our letter No.TOK/753/TS/69-II dated the 6 May 1975 regarding the annual payment of ¥240,000 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose are kept.

2. This is just to remind you that the annual payment for 1976 is due and we would therefore be very grateful if the usual sanction is issued from the Ministry.

with best wishes

Yours sincerely,

(R.S.Kalha)

Miss N.N.Haralu,  
Director(EA)  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi.

F. 25/4/NAO-II

F 25/105/NAO





O.P. Gupta  
Head of Chancery

~~TOP SECRET~~

EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

②  
T-3319/NGO/25  
19/7/75

No. TOK/753/TS/69-II

July 16, 1975

Dear Shri Rao,

Please refer to your d.o. letter  
No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. II dated the 6th June, 1975, regarding  
the annual payment to the Chief Priest of Renkoji  
Temple for looking after the ashes of Netaji Subhash  
Chandra Bose.

2. Shri R.S. Kalha, First Secretary (P&I)  
visited the Temple and certified that an amount of  
₹240,000 was handed over to the Chief Priest.  
The receipt given by the Chief Priest has been kept  
here on the relevant file.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely,

(O.P. Gupta)

Shri A.N. Rao,  
Director (IF),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

8-85  
19.7.75



~~SECRET~~

3

218A

A.N. Rao,  
Director(IF).

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.II

dated the 6 June, 1975.

Dear Shri Kalha,

f-216 #100

Please refer to your D.O. letter No.FOK/753/TS/69-II dated the 6th May, 1975, regarding the annual payment of Y.240,000 or Rs.5,672.40 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, for the safe custody of the Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. A financial sanction for Rs.5,672.40 (Rupees Five thousand six hundred seventy two and paise forty only) is issued vide this Ministry's letter No.Q/BFI/753(1)/75 dated the 5th June, 1975 and sent to you separately.

Yours sincerely,

a

(A.N. Rao)

9/0

Shri R.S. Kalha,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
TOKYO.

200  
f-216 #100



(4)

217A  
SECRET / DMED

NO.F.Q/BFI/753(1)/75  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, dated the 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1975.

The Ambassador of India in Japan,  
TOKYO. (Shri S. Than).

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

....

Sir,

I am directed to state that the allotment of Rs.5,672.40 (Rupees Five thousand six hundred seventy two and paise forty only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1975-76, under 261-External Affairs-B. 3 Special Diplomatic Expenditure B.3(1) Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs.5,672.40 (Rupees Five thousand six hundred seventy two and paise forty only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with the rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance O.M. No.F.17(50)E.II(A)/59 dated 12.3.1960 and will be debitable to India Circle of Accounts.

3. You will be the Controlling/Certifying Officer and the First Secretary in your office the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(B.Krishnamurthi)  
Under Secretary(BF)

Copy, with 1 s/c, forwarded to the A.G.C.R., New Delhi (Miss P. Lal). This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry.

1 s/c for budget folder.

N.  
(B. Krishnamurthi)  
Under Secretary(BF)



TS-8/DSEAD/75

TOP SECRET

5

EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO



सत्यमेव जयते

R.S. Kalha  
First Secretary

No. Tok/753/TS/69-II

6th May 1975

TS-1 (DSEAD) 75

T. 2271-NGO/1575-1575  
My dear Nathu

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Shri P. Johari, Minister's letter No. TOK.461(3)/74 dated 8th May, 1974, regarding the annual payment of Yen 240,000.- to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose are kept.

As we have mentioned in our letter under reference, it is essential that the annual payment be continued and hence are writing to inform you that the payment in this regard would be due for 1975. We are, therefore, bringing this to your notice for necessary action at your end.

With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,

( R.S. Kalha )

Pl. put up  
no file.

Utharali

12/5- Shri N.R. Verma  
Deputy Secretary (IC&EA)  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

NGO  
S.O. (EA)

Shri ABC  
12.5.75





6  
K.V.N. Menon,  
First Secretary (HOC).

TOP SECRET

T.3101-Ne0774  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO  
P237  
P215-4

D.O.No.TOK/753/TS/69-II

July 19, 1974.

Dear Shri Rangarajan,

Please refer to your d.o. letter  
No.F.25/4/NGO-Vol.II dated the 22nd June, 1974,  
regarding annual payment to the Chief Priest of  
Renkoji Temple for looking after the ashes of  
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. As directed by the  
Ambassador, I met the Chief Priest at the Temple  
and paid to him an amount of ¥480,000. The receipt  
he gave me, has been kept here on the relevant file.

2. Necessary certificate as required under  
Ministry of Finance O.M. No.17(50)/E.II(A)/59  
dated 12.3.1960 will be furnished to the Ministry in  
due course.

Yours sincerely,

K.V. Narayana Menon

(K.V.N. Menon)

Shri L.N. Rangarajan,  
Director (IF),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

TOP SECRET



(7)  
L.N. Rangarajan  
Director (IF) (214)

~~TOP SECRET~~ 214-A

D.O.No.F.25/4/NGO-Vol.II

June, 1974.

Dear Shri Johari,

Kindly refer to your d.o. letter No.TOK-461(3)/74 dated the 8th May, 1974, regarding the annual payment of Y.240.000 or Rs.5,672.42 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple for looking after the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

2. I send herewith<sup>a</sup> financial sanction for Rs. 11,344.84 (Rupees Eleven thousand three hundred forty four and paise eighty four only ) issued vide this Ministry's letter No.Q/BFI/753(1)/74 dated 22/6/74 for payment to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 at the rate of Rs.5672.42 a year.

Yours sincerely,

( L.N. Rangarajan )

Shri P. Johari,  
Minister,  
Embassy of India, Tokyo.

21/6/74



8

213A

SECRET/IMMEDIATE

No.Q/EFI/753(1)/74  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs

New Delhi dated the 27 June, 1974.

To

The Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo ( Shri S.Than )

Subject: Discretionary Expenditure

Sir,

I am directed to state that the allotment of Rs. 11,344.84 (Rupees eleven thousand three hundred forty four and paise eighty four only ) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1974-75 under 261-External Affairs B.3 Special Diplomatic Expenditure B.3(1) Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs.11,344.84 (Rupees eleven thousand three hundred forty four and paise eighty four ) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance O.M.No.17(50)/E.II(A)/59 dated 12.3.1960 and will be debitable to India Circle of Account.

3. You will be the 'Controlling/Certifying Officer' and the First Secretary in your office the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

( L.N. Rangarajan )  
Director (IF)

Copy, with one spare copy, forwarded to the A.G.C.R., New Delhi ( Smt. Girija Eswaran ). This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry.

( L.N. Rangarajan )  
Director (IF)





सत्यमेव जयते

P. Johari  
Minister

TOP SECRET

(3)

भारत का राजदूतवास, टोकियो  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

2122

DS(11)2937/74

No.TOK.461(3)/74

May 8, 1974

My dear

Prem,

P-2H-1/Com

Please refer to your letter No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.II dated April 23, 1974, regarding the annual payment of ₹240,000.- to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose are kept.

2. We have gone through our papers on this subject and examined the case thoroughly. Let me say straightaway that we feel very strongly that the payment of Rs.5,000.- per year should continue till such time as we are in a position to take the ashes back. While there is no commitment on our part in this regard, there is a moral obligation to compensate the old and sick priest of the Temple for looking after the ashes of Netaji with care and devotion.

3. In reply to your queries, there has been no reaction so far from the priest to the stoppage of payments in 1972-73. However, you must remember that the priest is almost 90 years old and in very poor health. This could, perhaps, explain his lack of reaction. There is no guarantee that his successor would also not react if the payments were to be stopped permanently.

4. I would like to bring to your attention that this Embassy has in the past also strongly felt that these payments should continue till such time as the ashes can be taken back. These were the views of Ambassadors Tyabji and Banerji. We refer you to our letters No.321-FS/67 dated 3rd April, 1967 and No.93-CP/68 dated 13th February, 1968. I might also mention that when in February 1968 the then Counsellor, Shri Ajmani, discussed the matter with the Gaimusho, it was suggested to him that the Embassy should take greater interest in ensuring proper care and custody of the ashes. I would also draw your attention to the then Secretary I's secret telegram No.24719 of August 8, 1968, in which he had clearly stated "We shall, of course, continue to pay Rupees 5000 per annum for the upkeep of Netaji's ashes to the Head Priest of Renkoji Temple. This matter had been explained to the Japanese Government through their Embassy and they seem to appreciate our difficulties and are satisfied with the arrangements made". We would, therefore, very strongly urge that the sanctions for the financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 be issued without any further delay. You will appreciate that if the Japanese Government get to know that the payments have not been made and if this information is leaked it could cause acute embarrassment.

Pl. put up  
with the  
NGO file on  
the subject.  
1974  
NGO



5. As regards para.5(c) of your letter, I might mention that when our First Secretary, Shri Menon, called on the Foreign Office in connection with the ashes of the late Shri Rashbehari Bose, he was pointedly asked as to when we propose to take back the ashes of Netaji, although the official in the Foreign Office appreciated our difficulties in this regard. It would seem to be clear from this and from previous correspondence that as far as the Japanese are concerned, they would like us to take the ashes back. You will appreciate that it is hardly possible for us to advise you on the political implications at the present juncture in India. This would have to be examined by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the light of the findings of the Khosla Commission. All we can say from here is that the sooner a decision is taken in this regard the better.

6. This has the approval of the Ambassador.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(P. Johari)

Shri P.K. Budhwar,  
Deputy Secretary(IC & EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



P.K. Budhwar  
Dy. secretary (IC & EA)

SECRET

(11)

(211-A)

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.II

April 23, 1974

My dear

P 210-A

Please refer to Vinod Khanna's letter No. TOK/763/TS/69 dated November 13, 1973 addressed to Shri A.N. Rao, DS(1F), regarding the annual payment of Rs. 240,000 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose were kept.

2. I have examined this case at some length and find that this payment of Rs. 5000 per annum to the Renkoji Temple Priest was first started in 1967. At the time this decision was taken, the view was expressed that even though the Government of India had officially accepted the report of the findings of the Shah Nawas Khan Enquiry Committee on Netaji that Netaji was killed in an air accident in Sept. 1945, the idea of officially accepting the ashes or bringing them over to India may not be acceptable to the family of Netaji and other political groups who have maintained that Netaji is not dead.

3. In order to avoid political and other complications, it was, therefore, decided in 1967 that the Renkoji Priest would be paid a sum of Rs. 5000 per annum for some years, ostensibly for the renovation and preservation of the temple. Earlier, the temple authorities had been, for quite some time, pressing for the custody of the ashes being taken over by the Government of India. But while deciding on this annual payment of Rs. 5000 to the temple priest the impression sought to be conveyed by us was that this payment was not to be directly linked with the priest agreeing to retain the custody of the ashes, but was to be given in consideration of the temple authorities' loyalty towards India and Netaji for a number of years.

....2/-



Our Mission in Tokyo subsequently reported that the Temple Priest was agreeable to this sort of arrangement and that he would also not be pressing for the ashes to be taken over by us till such time as we were ready to take over the same.

4. Considering all this, it was, therefore, decided to initially sanction this annual payment of Rs.5000 for a period of three years only, so that no long-term commitment was involved on our part. It was obviously the intention of the Ministry at that stage to review this question on a year to year basis, instead of making it an arrangement for an indefinite period. After the expiry of this three year period, a fresh sanction was issued again for the year 1971-72.

5. Vinod Khanna in his letter under reference mentioned above, had requested for the Ministry's financial sanction in respect of this payment for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74. By way of reviewing this position at this stage, instead of going on making these payments, I would like to make a few queries and request for your views and comments. The queries would be as follows:-

- (a) Since no such payment was made to the Temple Priest in 1972-73, what was the reaction, if any, to this disruption of payment?
- (b) In case these payments were stopped, what are the chances of the Temple Priest reviving his earlier stand that we should take over these ashes?
- (c) Presuming that these payments are stopped and that the Temple Priest starts insisting that we take over the custody of these ashes, what would be the views of our Mission in Tokyo keeping in view the political and other implications?

6. Kindly have this matter examined at your end and favour me with your views.

With kind regards,

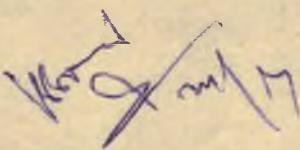
Yours sincerely,



(P.K. Budhwar)

Shri P. Johari,  
Minister,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

26/4/74  
HBC  
24.4.74







V.G. Khanna  
First Secretary(P)

13

Secret Immediate

EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

3140-48 BF/73  
19/11

No.TOK/753/TS/69

November 13, 1973

Dear Shri Rao,

As you are aware, this Embassy annually pays a sum of ¥240,000 to the Chief Priest of Renkaji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose are kept.

2. The last payment sanctioned by you was for financial year 1971-72 in your letter No.F/2/BFI/753(1)/73 of 10th March, 1972.

3. Payments, therefore, are due for the financial years 1972-73 and 1973-74 and we shall be grateful for urgent sanction of the same.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(V.G. Khanna)

Shri A.N. Rao,  
Deputy Secretary(IF),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Position pl.  
17/11  
V4 (BF)  
E. App. 19/11  
BF-I 17/11  
H.D. J. 17/11  
N. G. 27/11

Shri HBE  
1/12/73



(74)

25  
D.O.No.F.52/4/NGO-II

9th March, 1972.

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

Please refer to your d.o. letter  
No.753/TS/69 of the 7th March, 1972.

2. We have issued a sanction for  
Rs. 5,672.42 vide Ministry's letter No.F.Q/BFI/  
753(1)/71 dated the 9th March, 1972, a copy  
of which is attached for payment to the Chief  
Priest of Renkoji Temple.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

( A.N.Rao )

low  
R 7/3  
Shri R.K.Joardar,  
First Secretary(Econ.),  
Embassy of India,  
TOKYO.



(15)

~~SECRET/IMMEDIATE~~

NO.F.6/511/753(1)/71  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs

New Delhi, dated the 10 March, 1972.

The Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO (Shri V.H. Coelho)

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

Sir,

I am directed to state that the allotment of Rs.5,672.42 (Rupees Five thousand six hundred seventy two and paise forty two only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1971-72 under 24-External Affairs-B.4 Special Diplomatic Expenditure B.4(2) Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs.5,672.42 (Rupees five thousand six hundred seventy two and paise forty two only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance O.M.No.F.17(50) B.II(A)/59 dated 12-3-1960 and will be debitable to India Circle of Account.

3. You will be the 'Controlling/Certifying Officer' and the First Secretary in your office will be the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/-

( A.N.Rao )  
Deputy Secretary (IF)

Copy, with one spare copy, forwarded to the AGCR,  
New Delhi (Shri G.C. Raghubir). This issues under the powers  
vested in this Ministry.

*10/3*  
*13/3/72*

Copy to BF.I Section.  
One spare copy.

*AN*  
( A.N.Rao )  
Deputy Secretary (IF)  
*OR*





7.5.49/986072  
10.3.72

By. No. 1810  
Dated 8.3.1972

DS (IF)

Secret/1st Immediate

भारत का राजदूतवास, टोकियो  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

R.K. Joardar  
First Secretary (Econ.)

(16)

D.O.No. 753/TS/69.

2719-106012  
4712

March 7, 1972.

My dear Shri Rao,

As you are aware, every financial year the Government of India gives out of its Discretionary grant a donation of Yen 240,000 to the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, in connection with the safe custody of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In this connection a reference is invited to the last such sanction No.FQ/BF-I/753(1)/71 dated the 18th February, 1971.

2. As there has been no change of circumstances, it is recommended that a sum of Yen 240,000 (or Rs.5,672.42) may be sanctioned for the financial year 1971-72 also. As the amount has to be drawn and disbursed before the 31st March, 1972, sanction may please be intimated to us by cable.

3. This issues with the approval of the Head of Mission.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

( R.K. Joardar )

Shri A.N. Rao,  
Deputy Secretary (Internal Finance),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

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17

~~SECRET~~/IMMEDIATE

A.N. RAO  
DEPUTY SECRETARY (IF)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.II

18 February 1971

Dear Shri Joardar,

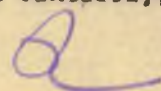
Please refer to your letter No. F.1(33)SS/64 dated 21st January 1971 addressed to Shri M.S. Nair.

2. The amount of Rs. 5,000/- sanctioned in the Ministry's letter No. Q/BF.1/753(1)/71 dated the 16th January 1971 is for the discretionary grant for the Ambassador for making effective use of our press relations in Japan as discussed by the Ambassador with Secretary (East) in December 1970.

3. A separate sanction has been issued in respect of usual payment of Rs. 5,000/- to the Chief Priest, Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, where Netaji Subash Chander Bose's ashes are kept.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(A.N. RAO)

Shri R.K. Joardar,  
First Secretary (HDC),  
Embassy of India,  
TOKYO

*Handwritten signature and date 1972*



SECRET/NOISI IMMEDIATE

(18)  
No.F.2/F.1/753(1)/71

Government of India

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEW DELHI, dated the 18 February, 1971

To

The Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (Shri V.H. GOSLAMI)

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

....

Sir,

1. I am directed to convey that the allotment of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1970-71, under 24-External Affairs-B-4-Special Diplomatic Expenditure-B.4(2)-Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five thousand only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No.F.17(50)E.11(A)/59 dated 12.3.1960 and will be debitable to India Circle of Account.



3. You will be the 'Controlling Officer/Certifying Officer' and the Drawing and Disbursing Officer in your oficer the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

(A.M. RAO)  
Deputy Secretary (IF)

Copy, with two spare copies, forwarded to Shri R. K. Anand, Accounts Officer, AGOR, New Delhi. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry, vide Ministry of Finance OM No.19(4)-E (Coord)/62 dated 1.6.1962.

Copy to NCO Section (with one spare copy).

Copy to EF.I Section.

DEPUTY SECRETARY (IF)





R. K. Joardar  
First Secretary (HOC)

Secret/Immediate

भारत का राजदूत, टोकियो  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
TOKYO

No.F.1(33)55/64

January 21, 1971.

Dear Shri Nair,

Kindly refer to the Ministry's secret letter No.F.Q/BF I/753(1)/71 dated the 16th January, 1971 sanctioning a discretionary expenditure of Rs. 5000/- only.

2. It is presumed that the above mentioned amount is meant for making the annual payment of Rs. 5000/- to Rev. Mochizuki, Chief Priest, Renkoji Temple, Tokyo where Netaji Subash Chander Bose's ashes are kept. In this connection a reference is invited to Shri G. Sankar's d.o. letter No. 37/GP/70 dated the 23rd January, 1970 to Shri V.V. Paranjpe, OSD (EA) and Ministry's sanction No.F.Q(BF I)753(1)69 dated the 4th February, 1970.

3. We would be grateful if you would kindly confirm whether our presumption as above is correct.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*R.K. Joardar*  
(R.K. Joardar)

Shri M.S. Nair,  
Deputy Secretary (Estt)  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

MBRC  
25/1/71

Acting on the PR  
Takar on file 25/1/71-Val II



(20)

TOP SECRET

MEA  
(NGO Section)

Dir (HD) desired to see NGO papers in Shah Nawaz Committee on Netaji. The relevant file no. F. 25/4/NGO vol. I & II with a copy of Report and other routine papers are submitted to Dir, HD who may kindly return them to us, when done with.

~~Private~~  
31.3.70

Dir (HD)

The file is returned herewith:

~~Private~~  
28/8/70

NGO

Dy. No. 3283...NGO/70  
Dated ...31.3.70....

100/TS-DHD/70  
31.3.70  
28.8.70

MMG  
28/8/70



21

11/11/1970

NO. P.O. (BF.1) 753(1)/69  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

New Delhi, dated the 4<sup>th</sup> February, 1970.

To

x  
The Ambassador of India,  
New Delhi. (Shri S.K. Banerjee).

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure

Sir,

With reference to your office letter No. 37/CP/70, dated 23-1-1970, I am directed to convey that the allotment of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1969-70, under 24-External Affairs-B-4-Special Diplomatic Expenditure-B.4(2)-Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and order contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No. F.17(50)-2.11-(A)/59 dated 12.3.60 and will be debitable to India Circle of Accounts.

3. You will be the 'Controlling/Certifying Officer' and the First Secretary in your office the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

sd/-  
(A.N. Rao)

Officer on Special Duty (IF).

4 Copy, with two spare copies, forwarded to Shri J.P. Sinha, Accounts Officer, Office of the A.G.C.R., New Delhi. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry, vide Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 19(4)-E(Coord)/62 dated 1.6.1962.

Copy also to (1) H.G.O. Section (with one spare copy).

(11) BF.I Section.

Officer on Special Duty (IF)

Mr JNP

Pl. issue  
R  
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1000  
1/2



49-055/70

(22)

SECRET

G. Sankar  
Counsellor

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

26/08/70

No. 37/CP/70

27/1

January 23, 1970.



My dear Paranjpe,

We have been paying annually a sum of Yen 240,000 (Rs. 5,000) to Rev. Mochizuki of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, where Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes are kept. The first payment was made on March 27, 1967, the second one on 19th March, 1968, and the third on 31.3.69. The fourth payment is now due. Accordingly, sanction may kindly be issued for payment to be made in March this year also, out of the discretionary grant on an ad hoc basis. The Ambassador considers that it is necessary to continue this annual payment in order to ensure that the ashes of Netaji are kept with due care and reverence by the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple.

2. This issues with the approval of the Ambassador.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

G. Sankar  
(G. Sankar) 23.1.70

Shri V.V. Paranjpe,  
OSD (EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Mr. Paranjpe  
23.1.70  
12 Jan 70  
Mr. JKP  
28/1/70



23

SECRET/IMMEDIATE

No. P.Q(HY.1)753(1)/68  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

New Delhi, dated the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1969.

To

The Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo. (Shri S.K. Banerjee).

Sir, Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

With reference to your letter No. 62-CP/69 dated the 13th February 1969, I am directed to convey that that allotment of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1968-69, under 24-B. External Affairs-2-B-Special Diplomatic Expenditure-2.5(2)-Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No. P.17(50)-E.II-(A)/59 dated 12.3.60 and will be debitable to India Circle of Accounts.

3. You will be the 'Controlling/Certifying Officer' and the First Secretary in your office the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.

4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

SD/-

(A.T. Rao)  
Officer on Special Duty.

Copy, with two spare copies, forwarded to Shri H.C. Aggarwal, Assistant Accountant General, Office of the A.C.C.B., New Delhi. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry, vide Ministry of Finance OAM No. 19(4)-B(Coord)/62 dated 1.6.1962.

Copy to NSD Section (with one spare copy).

(A.T. Rao)  
OSD(17).





J.C. Ajmani,  
Counsellor.

24

3901 DE M  
1972  
SECRET  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No. 62 -CP/69.

February /3 , 1969.

Please take  
action

18/2

NGO

My dear Manjit,

As you are aware, we have been paying annually a sum of ¥240,000/- (Rs.5,000/-) to Rev. Mochizuki of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, where Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes are kept. The first payment was made on March 27, 1967 and the second one on 19th March, 1968. The third payment is now almost due, and accordingly, sanction may kindly be issued for payment to be made in March this year also, out of the discretionary grant on an ad hoc basis. The Ambassador considers that it is necessary to continue this annual payment in order to ensure that the ashes of Netaji are kept with due care and reverence by the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple.

2. This issues with the approval of the Ambassador.

Yours sincerely,

( J.C. Ajmani )

Shri Manjit Singh,  
Director (EA),  
MEA, New Delhi.



(25)

2.9268mm/6  
208

SECRET

No.Q(BF.I)753(1)7  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs

New Delhi Dated the **20th Sept., 1968**

To

The Accountant General,  
Central Revenues, New Delhi.

(For Shri **P.D.Agarwal, Accounts Officer**)

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure **for 1967-68-**  
Annual Certificate **- Embassy of India, Tokyo.**  
-----

Sir,

I am directed to forward the Annual Certificate of Discretionary Expenditure, in original, duly signed by the Controlling Officer together with the details of the vouchers under which an amount of Rs. **5,150/-** was drawn for discretionary Expenditure during the year **1967-68** by the **Embassy of India, Tokyo, for necessary action.**

2. Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*

Section Officer.

Copy forwarded for information to:-

1) **Embassy of India, Tokyo (Shri J.C.Ajmani)** with reference to their letter No.P.3(21)6/60/ dated - **Sept., 1968.**

2) **MSO Section.**

*[Signature]*

Section Officer





J.C. Ajmani,  
Counsellor.

Dy. No. 1385

Dir (EA) 68

dated the 25/3

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

SECRET

No. /63 -CP/68.

March 21, 1968.

My dear Manjit,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Ministry's letter No.F.Q(BF.I)753(1)/67, dated the 24th February, 1968, regarding the ad hoc grant of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees five thousand only) to Rev. Mochizuki of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, in recognition of his services for the care and custody of the Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I called on Rev. Mochizuki at the Renkoji Temple on the 19th. Whilst accepting the donation with gratitude, Rev. Mochizuki expressed a wish that the Government would find it possible before long to relieve him of his heavy care and responsibility in regard to the ashes. As he is not altogether unaware of the difficulties which have so far prevented the Government from taking back the ashes to India, Rev. Mochizuki stated that he would be prepared to carry out this responsibility, if necessary, during his life time. (As you know, Rev. Mochizuki is an old man and he is not certain whether his son will succeed him as Chief Priest of the Temple or whether he could undertake the responsibility of the ashes satisfactorily).

3. So long as Rev. Mochizuki is there, we can be reasonably certain that the ashes will be looked after properly, provided that an annual ad hoc grant of Rs.5,000/- continues to be paid to him.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

( J.C. Ajmani )

Shri Manjit Singh,  
Director (EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons therefor should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

32/-

( A.M. Rao )

Officer on Special Duty.

Copy, with two spare copies, forwarded to the A.G.C.R., New Delhi. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry, vide Ministry of Finance O.M No.19(4)-S(Coord)/62 dated 1.6.1962.

Copy to MCD Section (with one spare copy).

*It has been done*

( A.M. Rao )  
OSD (IF).



27

SEE  
11 / IMMEDIATE

No.F.9(SF.1)753(1)/67  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

...

New Delhi, the 24 February, 1968.

To

The Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (Shri S.K. Banerjee)

Subject:- Discretionary Expenditure.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.93-CP/68 dated the 13th February, 1968, I am directed to convey that the allotment of Rs.5000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1967-68 under 24-B, External Affairs-5-5-Special Diplomatic Expenditure-5.5(2)-Discretionary Expenditure. I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No.F.17(50)-E.II-(A)/59 dated 12.3.60 and will be debitable to India Circle of Accounts.

3. You will be the 'Controlling/Certifying Officer' and the First Secretary in your office the 'Disbursing Officer' for the purpose of these rules.





J.C. AJMANI,  
Counsellor.

T. 7/53 - 22/1/68

~~TOP SECRET~~

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No. 93 -CP/68.

February 13, 1968.

Please take  
necessary action  
to sanction  
the payment  
this year  
Mh

My dear Manjit,

Thank you for your letter No.F.25/4/NGO.Vol.II, dated the 30th January, 1968, regarding the care and custody of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes.

2. As you know, a payment of ¥240,000/- (Rs.5,000/-) was made to Rev. Mochizuki of Renkoji Temple, Tokyo - for the first time - on 27th March, 1967. It was made clear to him that the subsidy was being made not for the care and custody of the ashes but rather for the benefit of the Temple. Care was taken not to give Rev. Mochizuki an impression that the subsidy would be continued annually until such time as we accepted Netaji's ashes back in India, but, despite the delicacy of phrasing, we may be certain that he would expect the grant to be continued annually.

3. The Ministry indicated in April, 1967 (vide their letter No.1767/DSEA, dated the 9th April, 1967) that if the Embassy felt that an annual grant was necessary, there would be no difficulty in getting sanction in view of the unusual political significance of the subject. Ambassador Tyabji had recommended that we must continue to compensate the Temple by making payment of ¥240,000/- annually until such time as we accepted Netaji's ashes back in India.

4. As members of Netaji's family remain unreconciled to the findings of the Shah Nawaz Commission and as moves are being made in Parliament for sending another commission to investigate the death of Netaji, it is hardly possible to consider the question of taking the ashes back to India at present. The only course left open is to renew the subsidy to the Temple to ensure proper care and custody of Netaji's ashes.

5. Meanwhile, Foreign Office here have also approached us for clarification of our position with regard to the custody and care of the ashes pending their return to India. As Rev. Mochizuki has clearly apprised the Gaimusho and others of the position, There need be no hesitation in acknowledging to the Gaimusho that we are showing due appreciation to the Temple by way of monetary

Contd...



compensation for its cooperation.

6. Ambassador is strongly of the view that the annual ad hoc grant should be continued until such time as the ashes can be received back in India. Accordingly, I would request that sanction may kindly be issued for payment of Rs.5,000/- (¥240,000/-) to be made to Rev. Mochizuki in March next for this year also, out of the discretionary grant.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Jagdish*

( J.C. Ajmani )

Shri Manjit Singh,  
Director (EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



Manjit Singh,  
Director (EA)

No. F25/4/NGO-Vol. II

January 30, 1968.

During the recent Indo-Japanese Officials Consultative Meeting, Mr. Shunji Kobayashi informally mentioned to me at dinner that they had received a request from the persons concerned that the custody of Netaji's ashes might now be brought to India. I explained the position to him and pointed out that the matter was a little delicate as some people, including some members of Netaji's family, had as yet not accepted that Netaji had in fact died. Consequently, if Government were to bring these ashes back, it would raise an unfortunate controversy. I told him that this was a matter which time itself will resolve. Perhaps, in a few years, even these people will inevitably have to accept that Netaji had died and we would then have no difficulty in bringing back the ashes in a befitting and appropriate manner.

2. He saw my point and said that the difficulty was that the Head Priest of the temple was a very old man and recently another prominent member of the society, who was looking after these ashes, had died. Therefore, these people were keen to pass the responsibility for the maintenance and up-keep of these ashes to the Government of India. I informed him that my impression was that we had taken up this matter with the authorities of Renkoji temple last year and that they had worked out suitable caretaking arrangements in consultations with the Indian Embassy. Mr. Kobayashi was not aware of these arrangements. This information came to him as something of a surprise. He specifically enquired from me whether we were making any payment etc. for looking after the ashes. I deliberately remained vague and told him that I was not sure what the details were but that a satisfactory arrangement had been worked out. I promised to him that I would write to our Embassy to get in touch with the temple authorities and see what can be done for the continued care of Netaji's ashes until we are able to bring them back to India.

3. Next day, Mr. Kobayashi told me that he had written back to his Foreign Office in terms of our conversation but on the third day he along with the new Japanese Counsellor, Mr. S. Omori again brought up this subject. They told me

...2/-

*Some faint**f/SS CC.*  
*31.1.68*



that their Embassy had received a telegram from their Foreign Minister who had been approached by the Vice-President of the Indo-Japanese Association. He did mention the name but I am afraid I could not get it. (It sounded like Kakow). Their Counsellor emphasised that in view of the fact that the Japanese Foreign Minister was taking an interest, they would appreciate if we would give this matter our earnest consideration. I informed him that we would write to our Embassy as soon as possible and will look into this matter fully.

4. I mentioned this subject to Ambassador Banerji while he was here. Evidently he was not aware of the correspondence resting with Dixit's letter No.349-FS/67 dated the 17th April, 1967. The Ambassador told me that he had also been approached by Gen. Fuji Wara and some others in the matter. The Ambassador suggested that the action might be taken on this matter on his return to Tokyo. We should be grateful if you kindly look into this matter and advise us on the position.

Yours sincerely,

(Manjit Singh)

Shri J.C. Ajmani,  
Counsellor,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.





J 3383/NGO/6  
21/4/67  
1980/285A  
J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

(32)  
Top Secret  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

सत्यमेव जयते No.349-FS/67.

Dated the 17th April, 1967.

My dear *Damun*

*25/4/67*  
Thank you for your letter No.1767/DSEA,  
dated the 9th April, 1967.

2. We would see that the present arrangement  
of giving a grant to the Renkoji Temple <sup>(continues)</sup> by making it  
an annual feature in our budget estimates ~~continues~~.

*with best wishes*  
Yours sincerely,

*hami*  
( J.N. Dixit )

*AA*  
*20/4/67*  
*H.G.O.*  
Mr. A.K. Damodaran,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



Top Secret

33

1767/DSEA

April 9, 1967.

My dear Mani,

Please refer to your letter No. 321-FS/67 dated April 3, 1967.

2. We agree with the Ambassador that we should certainly review this question early enough every year in consultation with the Embassy; and if you feel that the grant is necessary, we do not think there will be any difficulty in getting the sanction in view of the unusual political significance of the subject.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*AK*  
(A. K. Damodaran).

Mr. J. N. Dixit,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

Pl. issue.

*be*

10/4/67

Shani PEN

*10.4.67*





J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

TOP SECRET  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No.321-FS/67.

Dated the 3rd April, 1967.

My dear *Danu*

I write in continuation of my letter No.305-FS/67, dated the 28th March, 1967.

2. In paragraph 3 of your letter No.25(4)NGO-Vol.II, dated the 6th March, 1967, you had stated that payment of Rs.5,000/- should be made without giving the impression that it is an annual affair. While we have acted according to this directive, the Ambassador has desired me to convey that we must continue to compensate the Temple in this form (with this amount of money once every year) till we are in a position to accept Netaji's ashes back in India. This is the only way we can ensure proper care and maintenance of the ashes at the Temple. We have conveyed before that the head priest who is taking care of the ashes is getting on in ~~old~~ age and once he gives over charge of the Temple to his successor, ~~they~~ <sup>he</sup> would be inclined to take trouble for Netaji's ashes only if ~~they~~ <sup>he</sup> have some monetary compensation or attraction. The Ambassador, therefore, desires me to request you to persuade the authorities concerned to make this compensation a permanent feature till the emotional inhibitions concerning the return of Netaji's ashes to India disappear.

*with warm regards*  
Yours sincerely,

*Mam*  
( J.N. Dixit )

Mr. A.K. Damodaran,  
D.S., M.E.A., New Delhi.





J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

1614/285A

D2723/NGO/62

31/3  
35

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

TOP SECRET

No.365-FS/67.

Dated the 28th March, 1967.

My dear

I write in continuation of my Top Secret d.o. letter No.252-FS/67, dated the 15th of March, 1967.

2. I have drawn the sum of Rs.5,000/- in Yen (equivalent to two hundred and forty thousand yen) and paid it to Reverend Mochizuki, Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple. The payment was made in cash in the presence of the Administrative Attache of this Mission. We have obtained a simple receipt from the Chief Priest against the payment received by him. We made the payment conveying that it was only an ad hoc grant in recognition of the services rendered by him to Netaji's ashes, for the upkeep of the Temple. Care was taken to avoid conveying the impression that such payments are to be an annual affair.

3. The receipt bearing the signature and seal of the Chief Priest is being kept on record in the classified file, on the subject (the accounts file is separate).

4. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Kani

( J.N. Dixit )

Mr. A.K. Damodaran,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Notes for the  
In account  
Please check  
with the  
170  
2/3/67  
DH  
N.G.



36

Top Secret

1614/DSEA

March 30, 1967.

My dear Mani,

I thank you for your two top secret letters  
No. 252 and 305/FS-67 dated March 15 and 28, 1967.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*AK*  
(A. K. Damodaran).

Mr. J. N. Dixit,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

Pl. issue.

*SSS*  
30/3/67

Shir Pen

*20.3.67*



TS-36/011/67



J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

D. 24757/NGO/67  
2213  
(37)

TOP SECRET  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No.252-FS/67.

Dated the 15th March, 1967.

My dear *Danu*

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Top Secret letter No.25(4)NGO-Vol.II, dated the 6th March, 1967.

2. I have received the sanction for Rs.5,000/- which you mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter, under reference. I have taken note of the instructions contained in paragraph 3 of your letter. I will be disbursing the money to the Head Priest in the Renkoji Temple towards the last week of this month after obtaining Ambassador's formal sanction for the disbursement of the above amount.

*with warm regards*

Yours sincerely,

*J.N. Dixit*

( J.N. Dixit )

Mr. A.K. Damodaran,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

25/4/67

20/4/67

W.D.  
H. Geo

21/3/67



Top Secret

38

25(4)NGO-Vol.II.

March 6, 1967.

My dear Mani,

Please refer to your letter No. 1(33)SS/64 dated January 25, 1967 on the Rankoji Temple.

2. You will be separately receiving a sanction issued today for discretionary expenditure by the Ambassador of Rs. 5,000/-, in this financial year. This means that you can immediately make the payment to the Priest.

3. In agreeing to the expenditure, the Finance Ministry has suggested that an initial payment of Rs. 5,000 should be made without giving the impression that it is an annual affair. The position can be reviewed from year to year.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



(A. K. Damodaran).

Mr. J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

Pl. issue

16/3/67

Shri PCH

Signed 2/3  
7.3.67



39

**S E C R E T**

**No.Q(BFI)/753(1)/67  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

New Delhi, the March 6, 1967.

To

**The Embassy of India,  
Tokyo (Shri B.F.H.B. Tyabji)**

**Subject:- DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURE.**

Sir,

I am directed to say that an allotment of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) has been included in the budget estimates in respect of your office for the year 1966-67 under "24-External Affairs-F.Special Diplomatic Expenditure-F.2-Discretionary Expenditure". I am also to convey the sanction of the President to an expenditure not exceeding Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) being incurred by you out of the allotment.

2. The expenditure will be incurred, accounted for and certified in accordance with rules and orders contained in Government of India, Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No.F.17(50)-E.II(A)/59, dated 12.3.60 and will be debitable to India Circle of Accounts.

3. You will be the "Controlling/Certifying Officer" and the First Secretary in your Office the "Spending Officer" for the purposes of these rules.

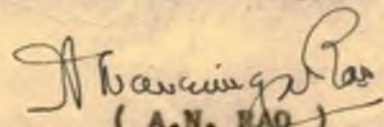
4. If, for any unforeseen reasons, an excess is anticipated over your allotment, the amount of the excess together with detailed reasons should immediately be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Similarly, saving in the allotment should be reported to this Ministry as soon as it is anticipated. Expenditure in excess of the allotment should not be incurred without the prior concurrence of this Ministry. The progress of the expenditure should be shown separately at the end of the monthly expenditure statement.

Yours faithfully,

( A.N. RAO )  
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Copy, with two spare copies, forwarded to the Accountant General, Central Revenues, New Delhi. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry, vide Ministry of Finance O.M. No.F.10(4)-E(Coord)/62 dated the 1st June, 1962.

2. Copy to NGO Section (with one spare copy).

  
( A.N. RAO )  
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.





J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

No.1(33)SS/64.

Dated the 25th January, 1967.

TOP SECRET  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

My dear *Damm*.

Please refer to your letter No.25(4)NGO-Vol.II, dated the 24th December, 1966.

2. I have made inquiries about the tentative proposal contained in paragraph 3 of your letter, under reference.

*On the file -*  
*HO*  
*no (12/1)*  
*no 90*  
Rev. Mochizuki, the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple, who has Netaji's ashes in his custody, is agreeable to receive a grant of Rs.5,000/- per annum in the form which we suggest. His general reaction was that it would serve the purpose of maintaining the temple, the buildings of which are also decaying. We did not mention the specific figure of Rs.5,000/- to the priest. We ~~generally~~ mentioned a grant of between ¥200,000 and ¥250,000 (Rs.5,000/- is equal to ¥240,000).

3. It, therefore, seems desirable now to process the case further. I would be grateful if you could obtain the approval for such a grant from the Ministry of Finance and inform us in due course. We agree that this grant would temporarily solve the problem which I raised in my letter of even number, dated the 26th September, 1966.

*with best wishes*  
Yours sincerely,

*from*  
( J.N. Dixit )

Mr. A.K. Damodaran,  
D.S., M.E.A., New Delhi.



December 24, 1966.

My dear Dixit,

Please refer to your letter No. 1(33)SS/64 dated September 26, 1966 regarding the ashes of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

2. We have carefully considered the suggestion that the ashes be taken back to India. As you know, the whole question of disposal of these ashes now kept in the Rankoji Temple is a very complicated one. As far as the Government is concerned, they have accepted the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. We, therefore, doubt very much whether the family will accept the idea of the ashes being kept anywhere in India either in the Netaji Museum in Calcutta itself or elsewhere. Far from agreeing to the ashes being brought to India, the family of Netaji Bose as well the political groups who have a vested interest in the matter might raise an agitation against the Government for trying to assert that Netaji is dead. We have, therefore, come to the conclusion that it would not be proper to try to bring the ashes to India now.

3. It seems to us therefore that the only thing we can do at present is to give some financial assistance to the Tokyo Temple. We were thinking in terms of a grant of Rs. 5,000 per year which could be handed over in the form of a grant to the Temple and the Priest in appreciation of their loyalty towards India and Netaji. If the grant is offered in this manner and not as consideration for looking after the Urn itself, there is just a chance that the temple authorities might agree to continue to look after the ashes. We have not yet approached the Finance Ministry about this but have reason to think that their response might be favourable. We would, therefore, not like you to make an outright offer now but would be grateful for your comments on the proposal. Specifically, we would like to know whether the sum is adequate or excessive or whether you think that this would temporarily solve the problem.

Yours sincerely,

*AKD*  
(A. K. Damodaran).

Mr. J. N. Dixit,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

*Done fair*  
*24/12/66*

*Shi Pen*

*Issued*

*26/12/66*



(42)

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~IMMEDIATE~~

Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

Prime Minister's Secretariat may kindly see the enclosed letter from the Embassy of India, Tokyo. Director (East Asia) has asked for a comprehensive note stating the reasons for our earlier decision and the demand made by some for bringing Netaji's ashes to India. We were able to find files Nos. 25/4/NGO-51 Vol. I and 25/4/NGO Vol.II in the NGO Section. However, the NGO records are not complete. It is possible that some papers are in the PM's Secretariat. We are particularly looking for correspondence on this matter following a letter from our Embassy in November 1958, part of which has been reproduced on page 5 of the incomplete comprehensive note enclosed herewith. It would be much appreciated if Prime Minister's Secretariat could kindly let us have any papers they might have on the subject.

*B. P. Agarwal*  
(B.P. AGARWAL)  
UNDER SECRETARY (EAST ASIA)

Prime Minister's Secretariat (Shri Natwar Singh, D.S.)  
M.E.A. U.O. No.8300-NGO/66 dated 7-10-66.

*Pl. done (w/ed)*  
*See 11/10/66*  
*me*  
*7/12/66*  
*Pl. Pen*



(43)

COPY

TOP SECRET

J.N. DIXIT  
FIRST SECRETARY.

Embassy of India in  
JAPAN, Tokyo.

No.1(33)SS/64.

Dated the 26th September, 1966

Dear Mr. Narayanan,

I am writing this letter regarding the ashes of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, at present enshrined in Rinkoji temple in Tokyo.

2. We have been approached by the Head Priest of the Temple (Who is the custodian of the ashes) and several other Japanese with the request that the ashes should be taken back to India. The Head Priest who is nearly 80 years old has expressed his inability to take care of the ashes adequately in view of his age and the possibility of his retiring from the temple. The other Japanese gentlemen also feel that these ashes should be taken back to India and enshrined properly, and if there are any difficulties in enshrining, the ashes should at least be taken back and can be kept in India till the Government of India considers the time ripe for their enshrinement.

3. This is not the first time that the matter has been raised with the Ministry. In the late fifties, after the Bose Enquiry Commission report was submitted to the Govt. (in 1956-57), a similar request was made by this Embassy and at that time the late Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, had ruled that taking back the ashes would not be practical because Netaji's family was not convinced of his death and were not ready to acknowledge the genuineness of ashes. He had desired the present arrangement with the Rinkoji temple to continue. Nearly 9 years have passed since then and still we have not taken any step to do something about these ashes, nor have we ~~xxxx~~ given any subsidy or grant to the temple or the priest in Tokyo for keeping the ashes properly. I would be grateful if you could have this matter examined by the concerned authorities and suggest some tangible solution to the problem that we now face because of the Japanese priest's request.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

( J.N. DIXIT )

Mr. K.R. Narayanan,  
Director,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.





J.N. Dixit,  
First Secretary.

No.1(33)SS/64.

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Mr. K.R. Narayanan,  
Director,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

D 8300-NG-66

30/9

Neelam P. Singh  
Like a copy of the  
with Mr. P. K. Menon

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

TOP SECRET

Dated the 26th September, 1966.

Our earlier decision  
x 24/12/66  
made by 29/9/66

AS(FA)

29/9

Pl. put  
up for  
signature  
30/9

Trace the  
reference

with best wishes



45

~~TOP SECRET~~

K.L.Mehta, ICS.,  
Joint Secretary.

15th March, 1961.

D.O. No. D2166-N2/61

17

Thank you for your Top Secret letter No.P.5(1)-NGO.I dated the 7th March, 1961, and the very interesting enclosure. I discussed with F.S. who feels that any attempt to establish Netaji's ownership over the emerald Buddha would be like a wild goose' chase. It is possible, however, that our Ministry of S.R.& C.A. may be interested in this image of Buddha for one of their Museums. Do you think it would be worth our while to take this up with them specially as we are not even sure that the image is genuine and in fact worth very much more than what we may have to pay to the intermediaries.

(K. L. Mehta)

Shri P.K.Banerjee, IFS.,  
Counsellor,  
Embassy of India,  
TOKYO.

Recd  
16/3  
12/3  
16/3  
17/3/61





46  
~~TOP SECRET~~  
P.K. Banerjee, IFS,  
Counsellor.

D.O. No. F.S(1)-NGO-I

D.2166-NGT/61  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

7th March, 1961.

My dear Mr Mehta,

Enclosed is a report on an image of emerald Buddha alleged to be part of personal property of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

In 1958 also, we received some information in this regard but our effort was fruitless. This time, however, we were more careful and discrete. At least we have been able to have a look at this emerald Buddha. Whether it is genuine or not is a different matter.

You may also notice that we brought this matter to the attention of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and they are making investigation. If you have any information to confirm that Netaji Bose had an emerald Buddha in his possession, it would help us a lot. If you have any other instruction in the matter, kindly drop me a line.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

*P.K. Banerjee*  
(P.K. Banerjee)

Shri K.L. Mehta,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



47

Information Service of India

Mr. T. Ishikawa, a resident of Aomori City, accompanied by a person, who was introduced to us as a Buddhist monk, called at the ISI yesterday and reported that a 1700-year-old image of Lord Buddha made of emeralds, was soon to be sold by its owner to an American multi-millionaire connected with the Rockefeller Foundation for US.\$30 million. Mr. Ishikawa himself had neither seen the image nor did he know its owner. But the monk had seen the image and also knew its owner. According to him, the image showed Lord Buddha with folded hands, was about a feet high and weighed 14,700 carots. It was fixed on a 21" sq. piece of wood.

2. The Buddhist monk further added that the image originally belonged to the late Subhash Chandra Bose, but, after his death, came to be acquired by its present owner. He refused to disclose as to how the latter came to possess the image or what his name and address were. He, however, said that the owner had two houses: one in Tokyo and the other in Aomori, and that the image was at present lying in Tokyo.

3. Both Mr. Ishikawa and the Buddhist monk added that they did not like the idea of an image of Lord Buddha going to the USA for sake of money. On the other hand, they thought that Prime Minister Nehru was anxious that the image should be acquired by the Govt. of India. They said that they would be very happy to help the Govt. of India in acquiring the image if we agreed to pay them 5% of the total amount for which the image was going to be sold i.e. \$1.5 million. They refused to disclose as to how they could accomplish such a remarkable job of getting us an article for \$1.5 million when, according to their own statement, someone else was ready to pay \$30 million for the same article.

4. The matter was reported to the Counsellor. He said that there were some previous papers also on the subject. A look at the old file showed that a story about the treasures of the late Subhash Bose was told to us in 1958 also. At that time one Keizo Takei, an employee of the Niyoshi Chemical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, informed us that the treasures of the late Bose were deposited in the Mitsui Bank by their present holder, a Mr. Tajima. He also added that the principal item of treasures was an oriental emerald weighing 18,400 carots. The matter was reported to the Government of India in August 1958. They advised that the best course for us would be to take up the matter with the Japanese Government. We could transmit to them the information which we had and ask them for their advice as to how best the matter could be handled. We were also asked to make it clear to the Japanese Government that the Govt. of India had no intention of entering upon any protracted civil proceedings in this matter.

5. The matter was taken up with Mr. Iwama of the Gaimusho in December 1958 by our former First Secretary, Mr. Malik. An extract from a note recorded by him after meeting Mr. Iwama is reproduced below:

"He was rather discouraging saying that information we had received was not specific, that it would be difficult for the Police to undertake investigations without infringing the Human Rights Provisions of the Constitution, etc. He went so far as to suggest that we should engage a private detective. I pointed out that publicity was precisely what it was the interest of both Governments to avoid and that police could find things out with much less danger of publicity than a private investigation. I also said that it would be desirable to give some answer to the various parties which had come to the Embassy with information. Mr. Iwama said he would consult the Legal



Affairs Bureau".

There do not seem to have been any further developments in the matter since then.

Sd/-  
Dhian Singh  
13.1.61.

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)

Mr. Ishikawa and the Buddhist monk may be asked to show to our representative the image to enable us to judge the value of the same. While the repetition of such an offer gives a reason to imagine that some article of the kind does exist. We cannot entirely rely on it to take the next step until we see it ourselves.

Sd/-  
(Lalji Mehrotra)  
14.1.61.

Counsellor.

I suggest that FS(C) and TS(ISI) may kindly have a look at it and report.

Sd/-  
(P.K. Banerjee)  
16.1-61

Mr. Ishikawa contacted the Embassy today on the telephone. I told him that we would like to have a look at the image before considering the matter further. At first, he demanded 5% of \$30 million even for showing it, but later on said that he would contact us again after consulting some other people.

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(H.D. Bhalla)  
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Today Mr. Ishikawa and one Mr. Mikami who calimed to be priest but looked and behaved like a desperate character called on me. They have agreed to come on Friday, the 10th February at 1 P.M. here to take Shri Jerath and myself to the place and show us the image. They were very keen that we should decide about the matter. They also pressed for some key-money which the undersigned refused. One so-called certificate (copy) was given and also their local address near Gehinkan (Both attached)

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)  
8.2.1961

Counsellor  
Mr. Jerath

Good Luck.

Sd/-  
P.K.B.  
9.2.61.

Sd/-  
(R.K. Jerath)  
9.2.61.



49

On Friday the 10th February, FS(C) Shri Jerath and I, accompanied by interpreter went to a place near Gehinkan. We were escorted there by Mr. Ishikawa and Mr. Mikami and later on were introduced to three other gentlemen viz. Mr. Tojima (who claimed to be the owner), Mr. Kumouchi (an old man who gave the certificate) and one Mr. Akihara.

Mr. Tojima (a medium-sized man of about 50 years) claimed that the said image had been in his possession for over 40 years and that he had purchased it in Singapore. Later on he and others partly contradicted the claim and vaguely associated it with Shri Subhash Bose.

Ultimately the image was produced. The image of Buddha was about 9 or 10 inches in height. It seemed to be of emerald though we, of course, could not testify to its value or genuineness. The Buddha head was hollow from inside but was appeared to be fairly heavy.

Shri Jerath and I returned without any commitment and promised further consideration. After discussions with Ambassador and Counsellor, the undersigned informed Mr. Ishikawa and Mr. Mikami that the Embassy would proceed in the matter only through the Government of Japan.

On 15th February Shri Jerath and I met Mr. Uchida of the Gaimusho and requested informally that the matter should be investigated. To this the Gaimusho officials agreed.

Today I handed over a copy of the certificate and a copy of the address given by Mr. Mikami to Gaimusho. Later on Mr. Kawai accompanied by a plain-clothed detective and pointed out the place near Gehinkan where the image had been shown to us. Mr. Kawai had to be sent to the place near Gehinkan because the telephone number given by Mr. Kamouchi was wrong according to Gaimusho.

It should also be mentioned that Mr. Uchida and other officials of the Gaimusho mentioned that there are likely to be two difficulties in the matter viz.

- i) It will be very difficult to take over the image from the present possessor in so far as legal proceedings by the Government of Japan would be necessary.
- ii) Even if the image was recovered, it would be difficult to prove that the present ownership is illegal and also that the image in fact did belong to Shri Subhash Bose.

In view of the above, Ambassador may kindly consider writing to associates of Netaji to obtain further evidence in the matter.

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)  
20.2.61

FS(C)

Sd/-  
(R.K. Jerath)  
21.2.61

Ambassador.



Address given by Mr. Mikami

at 13 10/

in Hozumi Kensetsu

Opposite Telephone-Telegraph

Office

Sankocho, Meguro



(51)  
(COPY)

To

Whom it may concern this (crystal) I judge  
with my wide experience.

It is to be a (oriental emerald) I am sure.

Height	21 cm
circumference	37 cm
neck	23.6 cm
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	17,880 carats.

I do not think another one like this existed  
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Mortin M. Kamouchi

A damimond dealer of USA

Tokyo address

Phone (44 - 3059



52

Mr. Kamouchi

Tel: (441) - 8231



(53)

16th December, 1958.

To:

Mr. G.J. Malik,  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy, Tokyo.

From:

L.D.M. Abeyaratne &  
Ichiro Kagabu,  
96, Tokuji-cho, Ikegami,  
Ohta-ku, Tokyo.

Subject: Buddha's emerald head illegally possessed  
by Japanese national.

Sir,

I send herewith a photo of Buddha's emerald head which originally belonged to the late Mr. Subash Chandra Bose. It is now possessed by Mr. Jusei Tajima, whose career is not clear excepting that he was in the South Seas area during the last war. The fact that he should possess the article is unreasonable. On one occasion he says he has bought it at Singapore, while on the another occasion he says he has bought it from Netaji's Japanese lady. Thus, whether he has got it through a proper channel or not is questionable.

As mentioned in an article "Whereabouts of Japanese diamond" in a magazine "Special issue of Bungei-Shunju 1956.2", matters regarding diamond were taken up at the Diet may be because there are some questions about Netaji's diamond. It is surmized from the article that Mr. Tajima might have illegally obtained the article.

It is justice to recover it from the man who got the emerald head illegally.

In the circumstances I submit this photo to His Excellency the Ambassador hoping that the article in question may be returned to India through diplomatic procedures.

Faithfully yours,

(L.D.M. Ameyertne)

(Ichiro Toshibe)



54

- The attached name card reads:

Sanji Chemical Industries Co. Ltd.,

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo (Tel. 251-5613)



55

Translation from an article appeared in monthly magazine Bungei-Shunju 1956-2, special number.

---

### WHEREABOUTS OF ONE TRILLION YEN DIAMOND

By Mr. Kohichi Sekoh.

A large amount of diamond was procured by Japanese Government from the nation during the last war. According to a testimony at the Diet in those days by an official in charge, the amount of the diamond procured from the nation was about 160,000 carats, which is at present kept at the Bank of Japan. I cannot, however, agree to the figure since there must be about 650,000 carats according to the results of my investigation made when I was parliamentary vice Minister for International Affairs. In this connection, many people were summoned to testify at the Diet after the war. I understand GHQ (General Headquarters) had delicate relations with the diamond issue. Accidentally I came to know they had 50 carats of diamond in their custody. Also, I know a large amount of diamond was found when a plane crashed with Mr. Bose and some Japanese on board. Further, many pieces of diamond had scattered at the crashing site of a Japanese plane at Mr. Mihara.

My prayer is that diamond illegally possessed by certain people will come out to the world and returned to the original owners. I am sure huge amount of concealed diamond will be displayed at show-windows of jewel shops once a law authorizing ownership of diamond by the present owners is promulgated.

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(H.D. Bhalla)  
8.2.1961

Counsellor  
Mr. Jerath

Good Luck.

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P.K.B.  
9.2.61.  
Sd/-  
(R.K. Jerath)  
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Ambassador.



59

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Opposite Telephone-Telegraph

Office

Sankocho, Meguro

I do not think a better one has ever existed  
anywhere in the world.

Harold N. Kinsley

a National Leader of CMA

Tokyo address

Phone 122 - 1088



(COPY)

60

To

Whom it may concern this (crystal) I judge with my wide experience.

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From:

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Faithfully yours,  
(L.D.M. Ameyertne)  
(Ichiro Toshibe)



(63)

- The attached name card reads:

Sanji Chemical Industries Co. Ltd.,

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo (Tel. 251-5613)



Translation from an article appeared in monthly magazine Bungei-Shunju 1956-2, special number.

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My prayer is that diamond illegally possessed by certain people will come out to the world and returned to the original owners. I am sure huge amount of concealed diamond will be displayed at show-windows of jewel shops once a law authorizing ownership of diamond by the present owners is promulgated.

---



441. Sakai  
Musashinoshi  
Tokyo

Oct. 4th 1958

President Prasad.

EF  
141 B.

I have the honour of giving you a  
photograph on which the late Chandrabose's  
writing given to me 18 years ago is shown.

When I had been the Commander-in-Chief  
in Bangkok during the War, I had many  
opportunities to have associated with him as  
his personal friend.

I remain, Yours faithfully.

A. Nakamura.



66





Photograph of Nehaji Subhash Bose

Excellency President Prasad.

(67)



No.F.5(1)NGO-1.

27th November, 1958.

My dear Jagat,

Would you please refer to the correspondence about the late Shri Subash Chandra Bose's ashes resting with the Ambassador's letter of even reference dated 10th December, 1957.

Last month, I went to see Mr. Miyake, Dy. Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He asked me when the Government of India proposed to remove Shri Bose's ashes. He explained that this was a personal enquiry as the priest had been feeling uncomfortable about the continued presence of the ashes in the temple. According to Mr. Miyake, it is not the custom in Japan for ashes to be kept continuously in temples. They are normally retained for a short period and then transferred to the family grave or shrine. Moreover, the priest also feels that he is getting old and that he should not leave the ashes to others after his death. I explained to Mr. Miyake that there had been no request from either Mr. Bose's family in Austria or his relatives in India and we may be embarrassed by having these ashes in India since, among Hindus, the ashes are cast into a river or otherwise scattered. Mr. Miyake said that, in any case, it would be more appropriate for the ashes to be disposed of in India than retained indefinitely in Japan.

I have reported this matter to the Ambassador who agrees that there is force in Mr. Miyake's argument particularly when we are officially taking steps to transfer the ashes of Shri Rash Behari Bose and arrangements are being made for keeping them in India.

This matter is being reported for your information and for any comments you may wish to make. I would also like some guidance as to what I should say to Mr. Miyake if he again raises this question, as I feel he will.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/ G.J. Malik

Shri J.S. Mehta, IFS,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.





(69)

D. 6584-NGO/58

TOP SECRET

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No.F.5(1)NGO-1.

27th November, 1958.

My dear Jagat.

Would you please refer to the correspondence about the late Shri Subash Chandra Bose's ashes resting with the Ambassador's letter of even reference dated 10th December, 1957.

Last month, I went to see Mr. Miyake, Dy. Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He asked me when the Government of India proposed to remove Shri Bose's ashes. He explained that this was a personal enquiry as the priest had been feeling uncomfortable about the continued presence of the ashes in the temple. According to Mr. Miyake, it is not the custom in Japan for ashes to be kept continuously in temples. They are normally retained for a short period and then transferred to the family grave or shrine. Moreover, the priest also feels that he is getting old and that he should not leave the ashes to others after his death. I explained to Mr. Miyake that there had been no request from either Mr. Bose's family in Austria or his relatives in India and we may be embarrassed by having these ashes in India since, among Hindus, the ashes are cast into a river or otherwise scattered. Mr. Miyake said that, in any case, it would be more appropriate for the ashes to be disposed of in India than retained indefinitely in Japan.

I have reported this matter to the Ambassador who agrees that there is force in Mr. Miyake's argument particularly when we are officially taking steps to transfer the ashes of Shri Rash Behari Bose and arrangements are being made for keeping them in India.

This matter is being reported for your information and for any comments you may wish to make. I would also like some guidance as to what I should say to Mr. Miyake if he again raises this question, as I feel he will.

Yours sincerely,

G. J. Malik

( G.J. Malik )

Shri J.S. Mehta, I.F.S.,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



(70)

D.O. No: 25(4)NGO.

The 13th October, 1958.

My dear Jha:

I regret I have not been able to reply earlier to your letter No: F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 25th August regarding Shri Subhas Bose's treasure.

2. On his return from Japan, however, I have consulted Foreign Secretary who is of the view that the best course will be for you to take up the matter with the Japanese Foreign Office. You might transmit to them the information which has reached the Embassy and ask the Foreign Office for their advice as to how best the matter could be pursued. It should be made clear to the Foreign Office that the Government of India have no intention of entering upon any protracted civil proceedings in this matter. You may, however, refer to the high esteem and veneration in which the memory of the late Shri Bose is held in India and add that, apart from the sentimental value to India of anything connected with him, it will only be in keeping with the late Shri Bose's struggle for giving a better deal to the poor people of his country to let any treasure left by him be utilised for some humanitarian purpose.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(B.K. Acharya)

Shri C.S. Jha, ICS.,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

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TOP SECRET

(71)

D-5141-NAO/58

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No. F.5(1)NGO-I.

25th August, 1958.

My dear Acharya,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Rauf's letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of 5th December, 1952, about Subhas Bose's treasure.

2. Recently a Japanese gentleman named Keizo Takei now employed by the Miyoshi Chemical Co. Ltd. whose office is at 8, 1-chome, Tamachi, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo has been coming to the Embassy. He claims that he has knowledge of the whereabouts of Subhas Bose's treasure which he can identify because he himself did liaison work with the INA during the war having, inter alia, trained Indian cadets in the INA.

3. According to him the principal item of jewellery is an oriental emerald weighing 18,400 carats. There are also star sapphires, white diamonds and other valuables. These valuables are allegedly deposited in the Mitsui Bank by the present holder, a Mr. Tajima. Mr. Takei offers to use his efforts to try to determine if the articles belonged to Subhas Chandra Bose and to persuade the present holder that his possession of these valuables is illegal and he should transfer them to the Embassy. Mr. Takei requests our cooperation and does not ask for any remuneration.

4. Personally we find it difficult to accept Mr. Takei's story. It seems incredible that an emerald of 18,400 carats should exist at all and, if it exists, should not be an object of interest to all collectors, museums and jewellers in the world. Similarly it is unlikely that Mr. Takei performed liaison duties with the INA because he speaks no language other than Japanese. However, as he is very insistent and has left a written statement in Japanese with us we feel that we should mention the matter to you in view of the interest which the Prime Minister himself took in this subject in 1951. At that time, I understand, the matter was dropped because it was considered that the publicity which might arise from any investigation would not be worth the value of the property likely to be salvaged. Now that we are offered some specific details, I wonder if you would like us to pursue it, and indicate how we should proceed. I might add that as the information furnished to us by Mr. Takei concerns a Japanese national and a Japanese Bank, any enquiries except through the agencies of the Japanese Government may be extremely difficult.

Yours sincerely,

  
( C.S. Jha )

Put up with sup., previous  
papers & a brief note

579

Shri B.K. Acharya,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

135-4

13(E)  
mrs  
5/19



(72)  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

No.FS/1044.

December 12, 1957.

My dear Jha,

126-A  
Thank you for your  
letter No.F.5(h)NGO-I of  
December 10 regarding Amiya  
Bose's activities in Japan.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

127-A  
Shri C.S. Jha,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo.





No. F.5(1) N G-0-T

78

D. 6440 N G-0/57.  
CONFIDENTIAL

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

10th Dec. 1957

My dear Dutt,

Will you kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.FS/1009 dated November 26, 1957? Amiya Bose was in Japan for about a month. He appears to have arrived just a few days before the Prime Minister's visit and left on the 30th October. I came to learn that he was here a few days before he left. He met our Military Attache and a day before he was due to leave he called on me.

2. Amiya Bose told me that he had come to Japan to collect original material in connection with Netaji Subhas Bose's biography which he was writing. During his stay he had contacted various people with a view to find out Netaji's contacts and activities in Japan. He had tried to get hold of any letters written by him to various people or other documents concerning him. He said that he had found a great regard for Netaji in Japan (which is true) and several people had promised to furnish him material. He also said that the house in which Netaji Subhas Bose lived in Calcutta had been converted into an international cultural centre which it was also intended to be used as a repository of things associated with Netaji. He was, however, rather woolly and vague about this. When asked by me about the precise nature of the activities of this Centre he added that it would be a sort of counterpart of the Indian Council of World Affairs.

3. Amiya Bose did not say that he had come to find out the truth about Netaji's death but when I asked him whether he had any views on that controversial subject he merely said that there were circumstances indicating that Netaji had been preparing to leave for Russia. He could not say whether Netaji was alive or dead but he had no hesitation in saying that the Enquiry Committee had not done its job properly and that the Government of India should have appointed a Committee of persons of higher calibre.

4. A few days before his departure he was entertained to lunch by an official of the Gaimusho (Mr. Miyake who used to be Counsellor in India) at which our Military Attache was also invited. No special significance need be attached to this. Gaimusho probably entertained him partly because their Consul General in Calcutta had written to them and partly because they wished to find out what he had been doing. It is the usual practice here for some officers of the Gaimusho to ask visiting Indians, even if they are not particularly distinguished, to a meal if they have been commended by their Embassy or Consuls General in India.

P/34/FS  
For information  
12.12.57

R.S.  
J. Subhas  
12/12

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J.E.  
14/12

JS(E)  
2/80  
14/12/57  
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ackd 12-7-A





सत्यमेव जयते

74

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

-2-

5. We have no information about Amiya Bose having indulged here in any undesirable activities or expressions of opinion adverse to the Government of India or to its policies. I attach for your information a copy of a news item on him in the Japan Times.

6. As far as we have been able to ascertain, Amiya Bose did not visit the Renkoji Temple.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(C.S. JHA)

Shri S. Dutt, I.C.S.,  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

Encl:1

P.S. I regret the delay in replying to your letter as I was away on tour.



23  
OCT. 17. 1957

JAPAN TIMES

## Bose's Nephew Here to Collect Data on Leader's Activities

The nephew of the celebrated Indian leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, is now in Japan on a three-week visit to collect material bearing on his uncle's activities in Japan.

Amiya Nath Bose, secretary of the Sarat Bose Academy in Calcutta, also desires to establish contacts in Japan for the academy, a research institute on national and international affairs.

Bose said he will welcome any information and help from persons here who had contacts with his uncle during the war.



A. N. Bose

The tall, well-built Indian scholar who bears a striking resemblance to his uncle said that the "Netaji's" house in Calcutta would be preserved intact to perpetuate the memory of the popular Indian freedom fighter, who is believed to have died in a plane crash in Taipei on his way to Japan shortly after the end of the Pacific War.

He said that plans are afoot to build an international hall and a guest house in the spacious compounds of the Bose home. These will be constructed with contributions from Asian countries "so that they can function as an Asian center for studies on international affairs with special emphasis on Asian problems."

He said the memories of Bose

are still cherished by many Indians so much so that 100,000 persons attended the memorial services held recently in Calcutta. He added that Calcutta remains the most important cultural center of India.

Bose is scheduled to spend the weekend in Kansai and resume his activities in Tokyo early next week. He is due to leave for Calcutta Oct. 29.



(76)  
No. FS/1009

November 26, 1957

My dear Jha,

Prime Minister tells me that before he left Japan he heard that Amiya Bose, son of the late Sarat Chandra Bose, had reached Tokyo. Prime Minister would like to know what Shri Amiya Bose did in Tokyo. Did he pay any visit to the Renkoji Temple and did he call at the Embassy at all?

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

Shri C.S. Jha,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (JAPAN)

SS(F)



J. Nehru  
28/11  
73

His Excellency Prime Minister  
Dr. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

(1) 77  
J 50 39 FA/57  
103, 2-chome,  
Koenji, Suginami-ku,  
Tokyo, Japan.  
November 22, 1957.

Dear Sir:

I have no adequate words to express my thanks for your having visited the Renkoji Temple on October 13. It was regrettable to me that as you were busy I could not have time enough to talk with you.

Netaji Bose's soul, I suppose, must have been content really with your visit. Enclosed here you will find the photographs taken on that day.

On November 8, I received a letter from His Excellency Ambassador Jhar, telling that you had asked me to agree to preserving Netaji Bose's ashes safely further hereafter. Of course, I agree with you of this matter. But I feel Netaji's soul is anxious to return to his fatherland as soon as possible.

By the way, I should like to tell you that I was at Haneda Airport to see you off when you were about to leave Japan. Praying that you would reach your country safe, I saw you off at the general people's seats. I regret deeply I could not tell you good-bye directly.

I close this letter, believing I shall be able to have a chance to see you again in future.

I wish you good luck and health.

Yours very truly,

望月教宗

Kyoei Mochizuki  
The priest of the Renkoji Temple.



(78)

SECRET

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Will the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research kindly refer to their u.o.No. B.5244/57-C 3 dated the 11th September, 1957 regarding a sealed box containing relics of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose lying in the National Museum ?

As the controversy in regard to the death of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose has not yet ended, at least so far as some members of his family are concerned, it has been decided that the sealed box should continue to be kept in the National Museum for the present. It may be seen that in the circumstance no better method for disposal of the relics has been possible. We would therefore appreciate if the National Museum are asked to keep the box until they hear from us again on this subject.

(J.S.Mehta)  
DEPUTY SECRETARY.

Ministry of Education & Scientific Research (Shri D.K.Hingorani)  
Ministry of External Affairs u.o.No.25/4/NGO dated 31-10-57

File  
30/10  
1957

Issued  
31/10



~~TOP SECRET.~~

25/4/NGO

October 29, 1957.

My dear Ambassador,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.F.5(1) NGO-I of the 20th September addressed to Shri Acharya, regarding the ashes of Netaji. The controversy in regard to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has not yet ended at least so far as some members of his family are concerned. The Prime Minister, therefore, decided on receipt of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report that no attempt should yet be made to bring the ashes back to India. The present arrangement should continue. It will be expedient if perhaps you would suitably inform Rev. Mochisuki with reference to his letter to the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely,

(J. S. MERTA)

Shri C. S. Jha, I.C.S.,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO.

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mrs

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TOP SECRET

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

D.O. No. 5(1)NGO-I

September 20, 1957

My dear Acharya,

Please refer to your letter No. 25/4/NGO  
of 9th September, 1957.

2. As regards point 1 of Rev. Mochizuki's letter to the Prime Minister, this Embassy was represented at the ceremonial service held on the 18th August. I myself could not attend but the First Secretary, the Press Attache and the Military Attache were present on the occasion. Later the Prime Minister's decision to visit the temple on Sunday the 13th October disposes of point 3 of Rev. Mochizuki's letter. As regards point 2 the position is that Miss. Leilamani Naidu wrote to us in her letter No. D.5219-NGO/53 of 4th December, 1953, that Rev. Mochizuki should be informed that at a proper time Netaji's ashes will be sent for and appropriately kept in India. Since then the Prime Minister in answer to a question in the Lok Sabha on 29th September, 1955, said that no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We do not know if there have been any further developments in this connection. It is for our Government to decide whether they would ask for the ashes to be sent to India and the manner in which Netaji's ashes should be preserved or consecrated.

3. I presume it is your intention that you should yourself reply to Rev. Mochizuki's letter.

Yours sincerely,

( C. S. Jha )

Shri B.K. Acharya,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.



(81)

Top ~~Secret~~

D.O. No. 25/4/1960

9th September, 1957

My dear Jha,

109-B

I enclose for your information copy of a representation dated 1st July, 1957, addressed to the Prime Minister by the Priest of the Rankeji Temple regarding the ashes of the late Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I shall be grateful if you will be so good as to acknowledge the Priest's letter and let us have your comments very early about the matter. As you are aware, the Prime Minister is likely to visit the temple during his tour to Japan.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(B.K. Acharya)

Shri C.S. Jha, ICS,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO

None we

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Issued W/c  
8/10/9





82

D. 3684-EA/55  
No. 2(64)/56-57-PM  
PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI 3-4459-NG/55

Dated the 22nd July, 1957.

My dear Bhattacharjee,

In continuation of Prime Minister's minute dated the 30th November, 1953 to Secretary General/Foreign Secretary, I am desirous to forward herewith, for necessary action, a letter dated the 1st July, 1957 (in original), addressed by Shri Kyoei Mochizuki, Priest of Rankoji Temple, Tokyo, to the Prime Minister about the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The letter has not been acknowledged.

Yours sincerely,

( M.L. Bazaz )

Shri P.C. Bhattacharjee,  
Private Secretary to the  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



July 1, 1957,  
130, 2-chome, Koenji,  
Suginami-ku, Tokyo  
Japan.

His Excellency,  
Dr. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru,  
The Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi, India.

Dear Sir,

As I stated in my letter dated November 25, 1956, I am keeping the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose single-handed with a religionist's firm belief in so doing. During the past 13 years, I have overcome various difficulties to safe guard the ashes and never forgot due services to rest the soul of Netaji.

As a result of investigations made by a mission which was dispatched here by your government in 1956 to inquire into the death of the late Chandra Bose, the problem of Netaji's ashes safely kept in my temple has come to attract much public attention both here and abroad, and this made me more prudent in the safe-keeping and protection of the ashes. Considering the importance of the problem, I am firmly resolved to protect the ashes against any developments to maintain the dignity of Netaji's soul and to safe guard his ashes.

In January 1954, a man you appointed came to my temple and read your letter to me. At that time, I expressed my desire to get the contribution of a sublime box to contain the ashes. He promised me to transmit it to you, but I am sorry to say that it has not yet been realized.

Now, I hope you will allow me to inform you the following three points, on which if you kindly let me know your intentions, I would be greatly obliged.

1. August 18 of this year is the 13th anniversary of Netaji's death. Since it is the most important event for my temple, I am planning to hold a solemn memorial service with the support of the Japanese Foreign Office, Indian Embassy in Japan, Tokyo Metropolitan Government and various other organizations concerned to mark the occasion with great significance.



84

-2-

2. If you do not mind, I would like to ask you whether your government has decided any measures for the maintenance of the dignity and the safe-keeping as well as for the return to India of Netaji's ashes.

3. At the news of your visit to Japan, the Japanese people are looking forward to the day with joy. It is easily supposed that you will be very busy with official arrangements when you visit Japan, but I sincerely hope as a religionist that you will visit my temple as a part of your official itinerary, or if impossible, unofficially, to console the soul of Netaji.

I have the honour to pray that you will be in good health as ever,

Yours very truly,

*Kyoei Mochizuki*

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Kyoei Mochizuki  
Priest of Renkoji Temple





~~TOP SECRET.~~Chief Secretary  
West Bengal

D.O. No. 653 P.S.

Calcutta;  
June 10, 1957.

My dear Sahgal,

Please refer to your Top Secret D.O. No. F.5/21/56-T dated August 23/24, 1956 and subsequent reminders. I am sorry I did not let you know the result of the enquiry which was held soon after your letter was received.

As a result of the enquiry, we decided not to conduct any searches. The result of the enquiry by the Intelligence Branch revealed the following facts.

Sunil Krishna Gupta of 25/A Kristo Dass Pal Lane, Calcutta, is well educated, possesses considerable cultural attainments and is intimately known to the Bose family. All the members of Sunil's family, including his two grown up sisters were associated with the political movement in the Far East sponsored by the late Subhas Chandra Bose. Sunil along with Amar Majumdar were superficially connected with the affairs of the Netaji enquiry that were being conducted by Shri Suresh Bose. So far as the inner matters were concerned, Sunil and Amar were never taken into confidence by Shri Suresh Bose. Both were mainly engaged in typing work, carrying news to the press, calling people, etc. According to I.B. report from quarters close to Shri Suresh Bose, one of the two youths is even being suspected by the inner group for leakage of information and this suspected person is probably Sunil himself.

A highly responsible member of the former Rani Jhansi Regiment and a Commander of one of the INA Guerrilla Regiments, both of whom were in the confidence of Shri Suresh Bose, told our agent that not even a scrap of the secret papers of the Government of India had so far come to the possession of the inner group of Shri Suresh Bose.

I.B. source reported that knowing Shri Suresh Bose as he did and from the information received so far, Sunil or Amar could not be the custodian of valuable documents



reported to have been procured by Shri Suresh Bose or any member of his inner group.

It is reported that Sunil only met Thevar during the time that Sunil visited Delhi sometime after the members of the Enquiry Committee returned to India from Japan. Thereafter Sunil had not met Thevar either in Calcutta or elsewhere.

In view of the facts revealed, we decided not to conduct a search in the house of Sunil Krishna Gupta.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

S.N. Ray

Shri N. Sahgal, I.C.S.,  
Joint Secretary to the Government of India,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.



~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~IMMEDIATE~~

88  
REG. A.D.

D.O.No.F.5/21/56-T.

New Delhi.

August 23/24, 1956.

Dear Shri Ray,

The Intelligence Bureau have reported that they have received information from a reliable source that some of the Top Secret papers of the Government of India made available to the Chairman of the Netaji Enquiry Committee are now in the possession of one Sunil Krishna Gupta, 25/A, Kristo Dass Pal Lane, Calcutta, and that it appears that he obtained them through Shri Bose, who was a member of the Enquiry Committee. It is further reported that Sunil Krishna Gupta intends to show those papers to Shri Mithuramalinga Thevar, who is his friend. We are bringing this matter to your notice as you might like to have the matter looked into and if you consider it necessary, have the premises of Sunil Krishna Gupta searched for the recovery of the file. We would be grateful if you could inform us of the action taken and the result thereof.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

N. SANGAL

Shri S.N. Ray, I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to the  
Govt. of West Bengal, Calcutta.



(89)

~~SECRET~~

INTELLIGENCE BUREAU  
(Ministry of Home Affairs )  
                    

We reliably understand that some of the Top Secret papers of the Government of India made available to the Chairman of the Netaji Enquiry Committee are now in the possession of one Sunil Krishna Gupta, 25/A, Kristo Dass Pal Lane, Calcutta. He appears to have obtained them through his friend Mr. Bose who was a member of the Netaji Enquiry Committee and intends to show them to Mr. Muthuramalinga Thevar his friend.

For information and for the consideration of the Ministry of Home Affairs if any action is to be taken against S.K. Gupta.

Sd/-

S. Balakrishna Shetty  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

M.H.A. ( Shri A.V. Pal )  
D.I.B. U.O.No.31/DG/56 dated, 17 August 1956.



~~SECRET~~

No. F. 25(4) N.G.O.

90

7th September, 1956.

Dear Sri Srinivasan,

I am desired by the Foreign Secretary to forward for the use of the Prime Minister the 5 copies of the printed Report of the Netaji Enquiry Committee enclosed herewith.

2. 35 copies of the Report are being simultaneously sent to the Cabinet Secretariat together with the Memorandum No. F25(4)NGO dated 6th September, 1956, enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

(M. S. SAIT)  
Deputy Secretary.

Sri C.R. Srinivasan,  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,  
NEW DELHI.

Encls:

*Handwritten:*  
7/9/56

*Handwritten:*  
MSW  
7/9



(9)

(91)

SECRET.

No. 25(4) N.G.O dt. 6. 9. 56

M.E.A. Memorandum on Report of  
 the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose  
 Enquiry Committee addressed  
 to Shri Y.N. Sukthankar  
 Secretary Cabinet Secretariat,  
 New Delhi. (103-A)

Taken out and given to  
 D.S. (EA) on 7.8.56 in  
 connection with Khosla Commission  
 Enquiry.



92  
Personal & Confidential

FS/8/4

6th August, 1956.

Dear Dr. Roy,

I send herewith for your personal information at this stage a copy of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report. Prime Minister has not yet had time to consider it. We have to decide whether it should be released to the public with a Government resolution as is sometimes done with reports of this kind. An alternative course would be for the Prime Minister to place the report on the table of the Parliament with or without a short statement.

2. As you will notice the report is only signed by two members, Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Moitra. Moitra has told me that the third member, Suresh Chandra Bose, made himself scarce after he had agreed to the synopsis for the draft and until the date of the submission of the report Suresh Babu could not be contacted. We had also reports from our Ambassador in Tokyo, Shri B.R. Sen, that Suresh Babu behaved rather queerly when he was in Tokyo. For example, he used to meet people without the knowledge of the other members of the Committee and made a little too much of his connection with Netaji. Simultaneously he used to pay visits to the Japanese Foreign Office and contact junior officers there to explore possibilities of establishing trade connections, apparently on his private account, with the Japanese. I have a horrible suspicion: it is possible that Suresh Babu will come out independently with a report of his own dissenting from the conclusions in the present report. All this is very unfortunate since this difference of opinion among the members of the Committee will be utilized by designing people to keep up a particular myth either for political considerations or from selfish motives.

3. The Committee's report is quite interesting and you might find it worthwhile to glance through it. We are printing the report and a sufficient number of printed copies will be sent to the West Bengal Government after it has been placed on the table of the House.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)  
Foreign Secretary.

Dr. B.C. Roy,  
Chief Minister of West Bengal,  
C/o Dr. J.P. Ganguli, M.B.,  
42, Ratendone Road,  
New Delhi.

Issued.  
Dm  
6/8

J.S.(E)  
6/8

N.W.

SLW  
9/8





SHAH NAWAZ KHAN, M.P.  
Chairman, Netaji Enquiry Committee,

SECRET

(93)

D.O. PS/56/MSC  
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
TO  
MINISTER FOR  
TRANSPORT & RAILWAYS  
INDIA

Room No. 37, Parl. House,  
New Delhi,  
Dated the 19th June 1956.

My dear Shri Dutt,

Please refer to the Prime Minister's note No. 24, dated 25/6

20-10-1955, para 3, File No. 25/4/NGO (Vol.II) attached, in which he has suggested that "after this enquiry begins, it might be worthwhile for us to ask the American Embassy and the British High Commission if it is possible for them to give us some information."

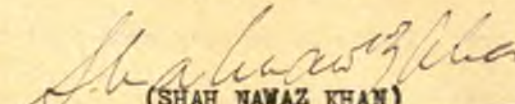
The Committee is now in the final stage of writing out the Report. It would be very much appreciated if information on the lines suggested above by the Prime Minister could be obtained from the American and British Governments.

During the course of his evidence before the Committee in Tokyo, one Col. J.G. Figgess, who is at present employed as the Military Attache in the British Embassy in Tokyo, stated that he was in Tokyo in September 1945 as a Staff Officer to Lt. General Gairdner, then Personal Representative of the Prime Minister of the U.K. attached to General MacArthur, and that he had received orders from either the Headquarters of Supreme Allied Commander, S.E. Asia Command, Kandy (Ceylon) or the Director of Military Intelligence India, in September 1945 asking him to carry out enquiries in Tokyo and Formosa to ascertain the truth about the story of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. These enquiries were carried out by him through the agency of the Counter Intelligence Corp attached to the Headquarters of the S.C.A.P. (General MacArthur) in Tokyo.



Japan. Col. Figgess was positive that a copy of his report would be available with the British Government. He had also sent a copy of his report to the then Government of India (either the Director of Military Intelligence, G.H.Q. India or to the Director of Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi). It would be very much appreciated if any information of the nature suggested could be obtained from the British and American sources.

Yours sincerely,

  
(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

Shri S. Dutt, ICS,  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Encl: File referred to  
above enclosed.



(95)

F 25 (4) N 6 / 10

12/11/56  
39/10

**SECRET**

26th May

56

My dear Anand Mohan Sahay,

1/2 (97A)

I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of 5th May 1956 to him about the Netaji Enquiry Committee. We are aware of this problem and can only hope that the gentleman concerned will express a fair, unbiased and impartial opinion on the subject.

Yours sincerely,



(T.M. Kaul)

assured

3.7  
30/1

Shri A.M. Sahay,  
Consul-General of India,  
**HANOI.**





~~SECRET.~~

D 2224 - N8/12

(96)

Hanoi,  
the 5th May, 1956.

Shah  
28/5

My dear Panditji

S. G.  
75.  
As desired by the Government, I visited Saigon for four days, from 30th April to 3rd May, to meet the Netaji Enquiry Committee and to give them all informations that they wanted and that I could give.

Having discussed the things with the members of the Committee collectively as well as individually and having collected some informations about their views, I feel that I must inform you about my feelings regarding the work of the Committee. I am sorry to inform you that I found Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, a member of the Committee and brother of Netaji, having a very peculiar way of approach. It was very clear from his talks with me that he has gone with pre-conceived ideas and is making all possible efforts to discredit the work of the Committee itself.

I doubt if he is going to sign the joint report. He may, perhaps, submit a separate report based on his own fantastic ideas. He is bitterly against Shah Nawaz. To my greatest surprise, he thinks that Shah Nawaz is "a traitor and pro-Pakistani at heart". Knowing Shah Nawaz well since 1943, it is difficult for me to agree with the views of Mr. Bose, although he tried to persuade me to agree with him.

I warned him that in Tokyo there were various groups of Indians, each having its own axe to grind, and that he should not demonstrate his differences with Shah Nawaz among the people there. I am afraid he may join hands with some such groups to secure support for his imaginations and ideas and in order to discredit Shah Nawaz and the Committee. He is bent upon proving that Netaji is alive and that he will come to India at the head of an army in 1957-58. He





(97)

-2-

bases this theory on the predictions of some madcaps called astrologers.

I also tried to make him realise that suggesting that Netaji would invade free India with the help of some foreign army would be doing greatest insult to the memory of that great patriot. I told him that such a suggestion might have been appreciated by some people if India, after independence, had gone wrong and the situation there had called for another revolution to change the order. But, I said, even the worst critics would admit that India has done remarkably well both nationally as well as internationally and today the stock of the Government of India is very high at home as well as abroad. Under these circumstances, I said, if, unfortunately, some Indian, however great and popular, comes to India at the head of a foreign army, he would be looked upon and treated as the greatest traitor.

I have mentioned this even in my statement. But, it seems, he is blind to all these facts and is sticking to his own views. I thought it fit to let you know these facts. I feel, it was a wrong choice to select such a prejudiced person for such an important Committee. A good unanimous report of such a Committee would have successfully removed all doubts and misunderstandings in the minds of those who still sincerely believe that Netaji is alive. I am sorry to find that the inclusion of Mr. Bose in this Committee will mar that possibility.

*With kindest regards and best wishes,*

*Yours sincerely*

*Chand Mohan*

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi. .



Telegram

SECRET

From: Foreign New Delhi.  
To : Embassy Tokyo.

DTG MAY 241330.

IMMEDIATE

No.28409. Ambassador from Kaul.

Reference our telegram No.28407 May 22. U.K. High Commission have just informed us that their Consul in Taipei has telegraphed that Formosan authorities are willing to allow 5 Chinese whose names were given by Committee to be examined by British Consul in the presence of Formosan officials. They are however not prepared to let them go to Hongkong to appear before our Committee. British Consul would like to have names in Chinese of the witnesses and the corresponding Giles references.

2. He did not mention anything about the entries in the Crematorium Register and is being reminded about it.

3. Formosan authorities' refusal to allow witnesses to go to Hongkong is significant. It is possible that they may tutor their witnesses and make them give wrong statements which may only complicate the work of the Committee. Our opinion therefore that Committee should not visit Formosa is confirmed. Please consult and ask them whether they would still like British Consul in Formosa to examine Chinese witnesses. Our advice would be that you should wait till you hear from the Japanese authorities in response to your approach.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: MINISTER:  
DY MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: DSXP: SOFA: USFEA(2):  
SONGO AND CAB SECY.

BHATIA(24).  
24-5-1956.

*Refused*  
Superintendent UCB.



O.T.P.

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTG MAY 221400

IMMEDIATE

No. 28407.

Ambassador from Kaul.

Your telegram No. 44 May 19. Matter has been placed before Prime Minister. We had made it clear to Committee in Delhi that it would not be practicable or advisable for them to visit Formosa. The only possible advantage of going there might have been to see entries in hospital registers. At that time the hospital was run by the Japanese and all the Japanese must have come away. There can be no first hand evidence available there. It is conceivable however that some entries in the hospital register might give some further information. We would like you to suggest to the Committee that you may on their behalf request the Japanese Government to ask their Ambassador in Formosa to be good enough to see the hospital entries and secure certified copies. At the Committee's request we had approached U.K. High Commission here to get this information for us but have not had a reply yet. The Japanese Ambassador in Formosa would be in a better position to handle this matter than the British who have only a Consul.

2. We have considered the matter again and are not in favour of the Committee visiting Formosa. Japanese good offices may enable Committee to land there but it is unlikely that the Formosan Government will give any facilities. In fact they may put obstacles and suggest degrading conditions. Apart from this politically this will be very embarrassing for us and might lead to complicating situations. If the Committee feel that there may be some public criticism here later they are at liberty to state, if necessary, that External Affairs Ministry advised them against a visit to Formosa.

PPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), Minister without Portfolio, Minister, Deputy Minister, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, DSXP, SOFA, USFEA(2) SC NO and Cabinet Secretary.

*B.M. Manchanda*  
Superintendent CCB



TELEGRAM: SECRET

From: Indembassy, Tokyo.  
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO MAY 191730  
DTR MAY 192015

IMMEDIATE

No. 44.

DUTT from SEN.

\* By ch.


In a confidential letter to me today the Netaji Enquiry Committee states "the Committee has examined a number of witnesses in Japan and feel it would be very desirable to pay\* a visit to Formosa if it is at all possible. The Japanese Foreign Office has been helping the Committee in its work in every way and it may be presumed that they would be helpful if a proposal for Committee's visit to Formosa is made to them. At a small party given by Mr. HATTORI Chief of the Asian Desk and others of the Foreign Office this matter was brought up informally and Mr. HATTORI gave me\* to\* understand that such a request if made to them they would be willing to use their good offices with the Taiwan authorities. The Committee has another two weeks in Japan and would be obliged if the possibility of paying a visit to Formosa is further examined to enable them to do so during this time". The position appears to be that the Japanese Government will not give any definite undertaking to move in the matter without a definite proposal either from the Committee or from the Embassy and neither of us can make such a request without Government approval in view of DUTT's letter to the Committee 18th April. I have today explained to the Committee the further deterioration in the relations between India and Formosa over Formosa's disruption of diplomatic relations with Egypt but feel that if this approach by the Committee is peremptorily dismissed the Committee will have a grievance which may make their whole report infructuous in the eyes of some sections of our people. In my view therefor the Committee should be permitted to approach Japanese Government for their good offices in the matter\* even if Embassy keep out of it.

Please place this before Prime Minister.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO MINISTER:

DY. MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: DSXP: SOFA:

USFEA(2): SONGO AND CABINET SECRETARY.

  
Superintendent CCB.

DHAWAN(24)  
19/5/1956.



101

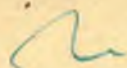
No. 1397-102/26

30th April 56

Dear Shri Shah Nawaz,

I enclose a cutting from the Amrita Bazar Patrika (Allahabad) dated 25-4-1956, which may be of interest to you and the Netaji Enquiry Committee.

Yours sincerely,



(T.N. Kaul)

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,  
15/2/56

Chairman, Netaji Enquiry Committee,  
C/o Embassy of India in Japan,  
TOKYO.

Enc: 1



2035-1460-16 874

With the Compliments of

A.R. Vyas  
Dy. Principal Information Officer  
E.A. Ministry.

To

The N.G.O. Section,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
Government of India, NEW DELHI.

R+I

NSC  
9/5  
Request (26/10/74)  
NSC for  
10/5/76 CR



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## FORWARD TRADE IN OIL: NEW CENTRES

RAJKOT, April 22.  
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work of a boost.

You like to know everything there is to know about a subject—and this means that you are sometimes a little too eager to know about the affairs of others! Yet, it is usually for some good reason and unless you let this trait disintegrate into a prying inquisitiveness, there is nothing to worry about. You women, especially, are exceptionally fond of children and would do well in teaching, in youth guidance or in kindergarten work. You will want your own home to be attractive and will be a fine homemaker. Even if you have a career, you will not be content until you are wed and have a home and family of your own.

Impulsive in romance, you may need to exert a little caution in the realm of the affections, for you are apt to be carried away by impulse. Something of an idealist and a dreamer, you may have quite a time finding that "one person" with whom you will be willing to share your whole life. But once found, it is forever, since your loyalties are deep.

To find what the stars have in store for you to-morrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

Wednesday, April 25

**ARIES (Mesha)**—This is a day when you can collect what's owing you—and, in turn you should pay your bills!

**TAURUS (Brisha)**—There is special emphasis on the romantic, if you are unwed, and on domestic harmony, if married.

**GEMINI (Mithuna)**—Avoid getting into even a minor argument just now. You will find things go better if you stay calm.

**CANCER (Karkata)**—Friends may prove important to-day. Your children, too, can bring you much happiness.

**LEO (Singha)**—Self-control in all matters can minimize the effects of confusion about you. Stay in command!

**VIRGO (Kanya)**—Take extra care when it comes to making or signing a new contract to-day. Be sure to read the fine print!

**LIBRA (Tula)**—Routine is your best policy, especially when it comes to money matters and business affairs.

**SCORPIO (Brischik)**—You will need the maximum of self-control to cope with to-day's difficulties. They seem more confusing than they actually are.

**SAGITTARIUS (Dhanu)**—Pay close attention to duty and don't permit yourself to be sidetracked by unimportant issues.

**CAPRICORN (Makara)**—You may find that a combination of business and pleasure can be governed by friendly associations.

**AQUARIUS (Kumbha)**—Your personal attitude toward the day's problems will be the best answer. Be positive and constructive.

**PISCES (Meena)**—This can be a productive day if you will curb unwise impulse and, instead, use your best common sense.

he is sincerely interested in improving living conditions for the people, wants long term loans to build houses, schools and roads.

The Prime Minister certainly spoke in a most friendly manner at the dinner he gave in our honour. He said he was familiar with my father's "determined struggle for the cause of justice and enlightenment", and he added:

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1. Name of paper ... Pakistan Times
2. Published at ... Lahore
3. Dated ...

A. B. Patilika (Allahabad)  
April 25, 1956

# How Netaji Met With Plane Crash

## An Hitherto Untold Story Of The Fatal Flight From Saigon Airport

A Flying Officer of the Japanese Air Force, who travelled the same plane with Netaji from Saigon, gives the following account of the air crash and the subsequent happenings of which he was an eyewitness. For reasons of his own the officer is not inclined to disclose his identity.

It was August 1945, two or three weeks before the surrender by Japan. The H.Q. of the Seventh Japanese Air Force at Palembang had been damaged by the U.S. Air Forces. The staff of the A.F. were called by the Japanese Commander-in-Chief to proceed to Saigon to prepare for the next day.

The Staff-in-Charge of Tactics, Lt. Col. Shiro Ishigaki arranged a well-equipped bomber 93-III at Palembang and flew with some staff members to Saigon. There they heard on the 15th August the announcement of Japan's surrender. Lt. Col. Ishigaki was ordered to fly to Tokyo to explain the situation to the Southern Air Force (4th Army) before the Council of Affairs in Tokyo.

Lt. Col. Ishigaki intended to use the same plane which had brought him from Palembang as the plane was well-equipped and well-installed and as he was familiar with it. Just at the time when he was waiting to take off an order came from the H.Q. to change the plane. He protested against the order and asked the H.Q. to allow him to use the one which had brought him from Palembang, but it was in vain. The newly given plane was of the same type as Bomber 93-III, but, as was afterwards revealed, it had met with an accident earlier. Its nose and propeller had been damaged by touching the ground. The whole engine had been removed for that reason. It was examined and tested and it was ready for use.

On board were expected the following: Lt. Gen. Shidei, Lt. Col. Ishigaki, Major Tatabashi, a captain, Chief Pilot, Asst. Pilot, Flight Engineer, Wireless Operator, Navigator and two gunners.

### Netaji On Board

The plane was commanded by Lt. Col. Ishigaki as he was the foremost air officer present. Lt. Gen. Shidei was a ground force commander of a Division representing the Southern Japanese Army. He was to fly with others as a passenger to place the report of the Southern Armies before the General Staff Council in Tokyo.

The flight was prepared to be undertaken at mid-day August 17, 1945. Just as the plane was ready to take off another order came from the HQ to wait a little while to carry another person, an important figure not a Japanese official. His identity was not disclosed. A little later the HQ ordered that the plane would have to take two more, not one, additional passengers. Their identity will not be disclosed.

Lt. Col. Ishigaki informed the others that all seats in the plane were filled up and he would not be able to take these two additional passengers. But the HQ insisted that they must be accommodated in the plane as they had a very urgent mission.

Meanwhile two foreign officers in uniform rushed up to the airport. Lt. Col. Ishigaki was informed that they were Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his secretary, Col. Habibur Rahman. Netaji had been in Saigon to have a thorough discussion with Field-Marshal Terauchi, C-in-C, Southern Armies. As the seats in the plane had already been filled up, two additional seats were provided in the narrow path between the pilot's seat and the rear gunner's seat, by the side of the additional petrol tank. Netaji and Col. Habibur Rahman were requested to take these seats.

Netaji took the seat in front and Col. Rahman sat behind him. They brought suitcases which were loaded into the plane. The plane took off from the airport three hours later scheduled owing to these last-minute changes. After an excellent flight the plane behaved very well, there being no trouble with engines as well as with the services. After the flight the plane was examined and checked thoroughly again and nothing was found with the machine. Netaji, Lt. Col. Rahman, Lt. Gen. Shidei and Lt. Col. Ishigaki were accommodated in a well-equipped hotel for night stop. There they sat together far into the night talking about the future of Asia and the war itself. Netaji was in a very good mood, lively, brilliant and determined, and his conversation made a deep impression on all those present.

### Future Plans

Netaji thanked the people of Japan for their best co-operation and for their help as well as the I.N.A. He was sure that India and other South-Eastern Asian nations which had been dominated by foreign powers for a long time would be liberated. And I.N.A.'s task would be fulfilled. He expressed his determination to work for the liberation and consolidation of Asian nations for freedom. He also expressed his determination to appear even at the risk of his life before the international war crimes court to expose before the world the domination of the powers over the Asian nations. Lt. Col. Ishigaki expressed his appreciation of the sentiments expressed by Netaji. The plane was prepared for the flight from Tsulung to Taipei.

For the first time the graphic details of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's fateful journey from Saigon, the plane accident at Taipei aerodrome, his last moment in hospital are available. Up till now since the disappearance of Netaji no such detailed account of the accident from eye-witnesses has come out in the press in this country.

Working for some time to unravel the mystery of Netaji's disappearance, Shri Hiren Singha and Shri Devan Das, made contacts by personal interviews and correspondence with a number of Japanese and Indian nationals who could throw light on the mystery. In view of the Netaji Enquiry Commission now in session in Calcutta, Shri Singha and Shri Das have released to the press the information they had been able to gather in the course of their efforts to unravel the mystery.

(in Formosa) through the whole night by the ground engineers. As the distance was very long, petrol was filled up in all the tanks including the additional tanks by the side of the seat of Netaji.

The plane took off early in the



Route of the plane which carried Netaji from Saigon to Taipei.

morning from Tsulung to make a direct flight to Taipei. As the plane was on its way, wireless information came from Shanghai warning that two groups of fighters belonging to Kuomintang were coming towards the east. So the captain of the plane Lt. Col. Ishigaki directed the pilot to change the course to farther east passing through the Bashi straight (lying between Formosa and the Philippines) and the plane made its course round about the Formosa island and reached Taipei safely at about noon from the east.

Just about that time the ground force of Taipei aerodrome were engaged in making preparations to receive Prince Mikasa who was expected there on his way from Tokyo to Saigon to convey personally the order of the Emperor to C-in-C, Southern Armies, Field Marshal Terauchi who was in his HQ to stop all actions against the allied forces. It was necessary to send the Prince to Saigon as it was assumed in Tokyo that the Southern Armies might not cease fighting notwithstanding the Emperor's radio announcement that Japan had surrendered. So a member of the Royal household was personally carrying the message of the Emperor to F. M. Terauchi. This was in consonance with Japanese practice. Tents had been put up at the aerodrome for the reception of the Prince in which lunch was served to the new arrivals from Saigon.

### The Crash

After refilling petrol in all the tanks the plane carrying Netaji was brought to the starting point of the runway about half past one. It started 200 kilometres per hour at the time of lifting) with the speed of 200 k.m. per hour with the engine's full power, the propeller equipped for left hand side flew away and the plane was disbalanced towards the left hand side and turning to the left touched and dashed against the stone pile, which had been kept there for the mending of the runway. This was about three ft. from the ground. The left-wing and the top portion of the plane being crushed by the impact with the stone pile, the rear portion was cut off and plane immediately caught fire.

The front gunner and the wireless operator died immediately in the top cabin, but fortunately the navigator slipped down through the emergency door with a slight injury. The pilot died, so also Lt. Gen. Shidei. The flight engineer narrowly escaped, though he was

seated in the rear cabin, being thrown away with the rear portion of the machine. Survived amongst them were Lt. Col. Ishigaki the Major and the other captain.

In the emergency of this accident the engineer as well as the pilot were unable to cut off the switches of the electrical circuits and in the stress of the crash the circuits were broken and gave sparks which caused immediate fire. The extra petrol tank burst and petrol spread to the body of Netaji. He could not avoid fire, being unable to open the emergency exit near him which had got jammed by the impact.

Lt. Col. Ishigaki in fear of explosion took shelter behind the stone pile and after a few moments seeing fire coming out of

### Last Moments

Emergency ground forces were sent for immediate rescue work. Lt. Col. Ishigaki as a staff member bearing an important task had to rush to the HQ to send wireless message to Tokyo about the accident, leaving the looking after of the rescue work to others of the party. When he came back from the HQ to the place of the accident, he found that Netaji had already been taken with the utmost expedition to the military hospital, a little far from the aerodrome.

The surgeon in charge of the Hospital (now living in Ishulin, Kagoshima, southernmost part of Japan) was informed over the phone that a very important person was in danger of life by an aeroplane accident and along with others injured would be taken to the hospital immediately. The surgeon along with his staff made ready to receive the injured. When the surgeon came to know the name of Netaji, he made the utmost effort to save his life. But he had received serious burns, two-thirds of the upper part of the body being badly burnt and face disfigured. He lay on the bed naked, merely breathing without uttering anything.

At the dead of night at about 11-30, Netaji uttered "mizu mizu" (water) and breathed his last.

### Col. Ishigaki's Account

The following is the account of Lt. Col. Ishigaki of subsequent happenings:

As he was a task bearer to inform the General Staff Council about the situation of the southern air forces and also about the ground forces owing to the death of Lt. Gen. Shidei, Lt. Col. Ishigaki had to leave for Tokyo by an immediate plane and could not look after the cremation of the body of Netaji. The whole charge was given to Major Tatabashi, who had accompanied him in the plane and to the ground forces there.

The cremation took place somewhere outside the airport. Lt. Col. Ishigaki did not know the exact location as he had already left the place. The ashes of Netaji were conveyed to Japan by Major Tata-

hashi and Col. Rahman. At Fukuoka aerodrome in Kiushu, the ashes were handed over to the HQ of the Fifth Air Army and there from the ashes were taken by train to Tokyo, under two guards, together with the personal effects of Netaji in a wooden box.

At Tokyo in the office of the General Staff Council the ashes were received by Lt. Col. Takakura, one of the members of the Staff. He received them with the utmost secrecy and enshrined in the Staff office. It was about a week after the accident. The General Staff Office was then in a condition of turmoil. Even after the beginning of the occupation by the Allied Forces, no body wanted to be involved in the matter and correct information was not available until a few years later when the Press started writing about Netaji's death and about the public opinion in India, where a section still believed that Netaji was alive somewhere.

### Lt. Col. Takakura

The following is the account of Lt. Col. Takakura: He received the ashes at the Staff Office from the guards and then in consultation with the I.N.A.'s directors, Mr. Murti and others, who were in Tokyo sent those ashes sometime later to the Japanese Buddhist temple Rankoji, whose chief is Bhikkhu Mochizuki. At that time various temples were visited by them and requested to enshrine the ashes but the proposal was not accepted as no one wanted to be involved in the complicated matter. Being requested by the diplomatic representative of the Indian Government in Tokyo, Bhikkhu Mochizuki accepted the proposal. The temple is situated in Horinouchi Nakanoku, Tokyo and belongs to the Nichiren sect.

The following is the account of Bhikkhu Mochizuki:

The Bhikkhu had no hesitation in receiving the ashes though there was the risk of his being involved in the controversial matter. At first a monthly commemoration service attended by a small group of people was held at the said temple and thereafter diplomatic representatives of India and of the I.N.A. also attended the ceremony. Gradually it was known to the people of Japan and now-a-days the annual commemoration ceremony is held.

The plan of the runway at Taipei aerodrome. The plane after taking off dashed against the stone pile which had been kept there for repair of the runway. The tents which had been pitched for the reception of Prince Mikasa are also shown in the drawing.



mony of Netaji is held on a large scale at the said temple in Tokyo. The Bhikkhu intends to send the ashes to India if the people of India so desire and he also intends to construct a Stupa at the temple premises for the commemoration of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.



(103)

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

1. Name of paper .. .. Amrita Bazar Patrika  
Published at .. .. Calcutta  
3. Dated .. .. 25.4.56

**Netaji Enquiry  
Committee**

**3 Persons Examined  
On Tuesday**

Three persons gave evidence before the Netaji Enquiry Committee on Tuesday which met in Calcutta under the Chairmanship of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan

In the morning Shri Himangshu Kumar Roy and Shri Kalipada Dey were disposed of by the Committee. In the afternoon Shri S. M. Goswami was examined.

On Wednesday the Committee will record the evidence of Mr. Nigeshi, a Japanese interpreter who was attached to Netaji, Shri Hiren Singha, Shri Deben Das and Shri Jagadish Sinha.





1338-450/26  
D

No. PS/56/N. (104)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD).

New Delhi,  
Dt. 27th Feb. 1956.

Shri A.J. Kidwai,  
Deputy Secretary to Govt. of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

With reference to Shri Shah Nawaz Khan's D.O. letter to you dt. PS/56/N of 17-2-1956, this is now to state that the address of Col. Pritam Singh is as follows:-

Col. Pritam Singh,  
Village & P.O. Doiwala (Rly. Station),  
District Dehra Dun. U.P.

Yours faithfully,

*(Signature)*

(R. Dyal)

P.A. to Parl. Secy.





21337-NW/100

105  
D.O. No. PS/56/N.  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD).

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi,

Dated the 17th Feb. '56.

Dear Shri Kidwai,

The Committee would like to examine the under-mentioned  
Ex-I.N.A. Officers at Delhi:-

1. Col. Habibul Rahman, at present in the service of Pakistan Government, Political Department.
2. Col. Pritam Singh, village Khara Dona, District Kapurthala, Pepsu.
3. Shri Devnath Des, 171/3, Rash Behari Avenue, Calcutta-19.
4. Shri S.A. Iyer, Information Officer, Government of Bombay, Bombay.
5. Col. Gulzara Singh, Indian Army.

The Committee would like to meet at Delhi with effect from the 15th of March 1956, and after finishing the study of documents and examination of witnesses from India & Pakistan, they would like to leave for Saigon either in the 3rd or the 4th week of March. Necessary steps in this direction may please be taken to secure the presence of witnesses in Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

*Shah Nawaz Khan*  
(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

Shri A.J. Kidwai,  
Deputy Secretary to Govt. of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.



12.8.56

106

O.T.P.

CCB No.1233

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

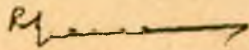
From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Andamans, Port Blair.

DTO February 25/600.

No.24705. Maitra from Foreign Secretary.

Your telegram 00063 of February 22. Home Secretary says you will be relieved in time for you to catch the boat sailing 18th March. Please await further instruction about enquiry committee care Chief Secretary Calcutta.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): SHRI V.K.KRISHNA MENON: MINISTER:  
DY MINISTER: SG(2): ES(2): CS(2): JSE: JSAD: JSA:  
SHRI PREM KRISHEN: DSXP: SONGO: CABINET SECRETARY:  
MINISTER AND SECRETARY MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(2).

  
Superintendent CCB.

Shivpuri/27.  
25.2.1956.



THW  
(P)  
Telegram

O.T.P.

107  
CCB NO. 1818.

~~SECRET~~  
From: Andamans, Port Blair.  
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO FEB 22 NIL.  
DTR FEB 230530.

(63A)  
No. 00063. From MAITRA to Mr. S. DUTT Foreign Secretary.

\*By ch.  
Please refer to my telegram No. secret 00062 10th February regarding membership of Committee investigating death of NETAJI SUBHAS. Ship touches Port\* Blair\* once in three weeks. Next sailing about 1st March. To enable make necessary arrangements request definite direction by signal.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): SHRI V.K. KRISHNA MENON: MINISTER:  
DY MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: JSAD: JSA: SHRI PREM  
KRISHNEN: DSXP: SONGO: CAB SECY: MINISTER AND SECRETARY MINISTRY  
OF HOME AFFAIRS(2).

BHATIA(27).  
23-2-1956.

Rel  
Superintendent CCB.



108

No.FS/ 215

February 22, 1956.

Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

February 22, 1956.

My dear Ray,

It has been brought to our notice that Suresh Chandra Bose who, as you know, is to be a member of the Enquiry Committee in connection with Netaji Bose's death, would expect an honorarium from Government of Rs.2,000/- or so. I do not know Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's pecuniary condition but I cannot believe that he would expect an honorarium from Government for this particular work. Could you make some informal enquiries and let me know. We have made no provision for any such expenditure.

Yours sincerely,

(S. DUTT)  
Foreign Secretary

Shri S.N. Ray,  
Chief Secretary, West Bengal,  
Calcutta.



109

78/211

Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

February 22, 1956.

My dear Sen,

u (72A)

The Prime Minister has received your personal letter of February 8. He does not think that Dr. Radha Bired Pal would be quite suitable as a member of the particular committee.

g3LBN

ISSUED

I may add that Dr. Pal has been selected by Saudi Arabia as its nominee on an arbitration board in a dispute with an oil company and would not be available for some time.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)  
Foreign Secretary.

Shri B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO  
Japan.





PERSONAL

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

110  
830-N80/13

February 8, 1956.

Dear Jawaharlalji,

I find in the writings and speeches in Calcutta on the occasion of the sixtieth birthday anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose the expression of a desire that Radha Binod Pal might be included as a Member of the Investigation Committee as his inclusion will strengthen the composition of the Committee in the eyes of the people of Bengal.

Radha Binod Pal, as you are aware, enjoys a great reputation in Japan for his dissenting note as a Member of the War Crimes Tribunal and also generally for his sympathetic approach to Japanese problems after the war.

I have not discussed this matter with anyone here either in the Japanese Government or outside. You may already have thought about him. If you think inclusion of Radha Binod Pal as a Member of the Committee will help to satisfy public opinion in Bengal, I can see no objection whatever from this end. In fact, I feel - though I do not know Radha Binod Pal personally - his inclusion may give a certain stability and realism to the work of this Committee which it may - I have however no specific reason to say so - otherwise lack. Perhaps Dr. B.C. Roy will be able to advise you on this point.

Yours sincerely,

(B. R. Sen)

The Hon'ble Shri Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi.



TOP SECRET

75/155

February 11, 1956.

Dear Dr. Roy,

I send herewith, for your personal information, a copy of a note which the Japanese Foreign Office has handed to our Ambassador in Tokyo on the circumstances relating to the death of Netaji Subhas Bose. It is our intention to place the report before the Committee which we shall be sending out shortly. Meantime, we shall be grateful if the secrecy of the document is preserved.

ISSUED

J. S(E)

Yours sincerely,

*S. Dutt*

(S. Dutt)  
Foreign Secretary

Dr. B.C. Roy,  
Chief Minister, West Bengal,  
Calcutta



~~TOP SECRET~~

112

No. FS/154

February 11, 1956.

My dear Sen,

(67A)

Please refer to your demi-official letter No.F.5(1)-NGO-I of February 6. We have read the Note Verbale, received from the Japanese Foreign Office, with interest. We also note that you will place the material before the Investigation Committee when it arrives in Tokyo. In the meantime we shall let the Committee have a preliminary look at this material before they leave India.

- ISSUED
- J. S. (E)
2. It does not look that the Committee will be able to leave India before early April. R.K. Mitra, who was to be a Member of the Committee, has recently joined as Chairman of the Calcutta Port Trust and will no longer be available. We are trying to get Sankar Moitra, at present Chief Commissioner, Andamans, to take his place.
3. We have noted the suggestion in paragraph 2 of your letter.

Yours sincerely,

(S. DUTT)  
Foreign Secretary.

Shri B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo.



① ② ③ 113  
Embassy of India, Tokyo Top Secret.

Letter No. F. 5 (1)/1560-I

dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 1956

~~from~~ \* (from B. R. Sen to  
Shri S. Guha, Foreign Secretary)

enclosing Gaimusho Note Verbale

No. 24/AY dt. 31.1.56 with

Japanese Govt's investigation report  
(67-A, 67-B, 67-C)

Taken out and given to

DS(EA) on 7.8.72 in

connection with Khosla

Commission Enquiry



128/114  
(5) 114  
O. T. P.

CCB No. 1410

TELEGRAM: ~~SECRET~~

From: Andamans, Port Blair.  
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO FEB 10 NIL  
DTR FEB 111520

No. 00062.

From MAITRA to Mr. S.DUTT Foreign Secretary.

\* By ch.  
Appreciate offer of member of Committee to investigate\* death of\* NETAJI SUBHAS and wish accept same. Kindly intimate approximate time when Committee expected leave\* India\*. Committee work said to take\* four weeks. Including journey from Port Blair in my case total time six weeks. Already intimated Ministry of Home Affairs am prepared to hand over charge end April and proceed\* on leave. In view of work at hand not possible hand over for good before end April\*. If Committee goes abroad May or after can join after handing over. Otherwise have to return to Port Blair and hand over here middle June allowing six weeks absence. If latter kindly consult Ministry of Home Affairs.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): SHRI V.K. KRISHNA MENON: MINISTER:  
DY. MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: JSAD: JSA: SHRI  
PREM KRISHEN: DSXP: SONGO: CABINET SECRETARY: MINISTER &  
SECRETARY MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(2).

*Refused*  
Superintendent CCB.

DHAWAN(27)  
11/2/1956.



2200  
115  
O.T.P.

CCB No.0831

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Andamans, Port Blair.

DTO FEBY 091500

IMMEDIATE

No.24686. Moitra from Foreign Secretary.

Dr. Roy has suggested your name as a Member of a Committee of three which the Government of India is appointing to investigate the circumstances relating to Netaji Subash Bose's death. The Committee will have to visit Thailand, Indo-China, Singapore and Japan and its work is likely to take four weeks. Shall be glad if you will accept assignment and postpone your leave by a month or so.

PS TO PM(4): SHRI V.K. KRISHNA MENON: MINISTER:  
DY MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: SONGO: CABINET SECY:  
AND SECRETARY MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(2).

Sethi/21.  
09-2-56.

*Rajendra*  
Superintendent CCB.



75/137

116

Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

February 9, 1956.

Dear Dr. Roy,

Thank you for your D.O. letter No.109-CM of the 4th February. I understand from A.V. Pai that Sankar is due to be relieved about the 18th April. He has asked for four months' leave. I will ask him whether he would be willing to postpone his leave by three or four weeks and join the Committee. The Home Ministry here will be prepared to release him one or two weeks earlier, if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

Dr. B.C. Roy,  
Chief Minister, West Bengal,  
CALCUTTA

ISSUED

JS(F)

4(581)





(D)

574-MSO/117

117

D.O. no. 109- CM.

CHIEF MINISTER

WEST BENGAL

Calcutta

The 3rd February, 1956

4/12

My dear Subimal,

Your letter of the 1st February, 1956.

Since writing to you, I have heard from Ranjit Gupta that he will not be able to take this job as he has booked his passage to Europe on the 15th or 16th of February. I am afraid you will have to give him up.

Now, if your Committee is to leave for Japan in March, they might as well leave a little earlier and you may ask Sankar Meitra to come a little earlier.

Yours sincerely,

B. C. Roy

Sari S. Dutt, I.C.S.,  
Secretary to the Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi



(118)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI.

D.O.No. 426

Dated, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1956.

Dear Major General Shah Nawaz,

Foreign Secretary has slightly amended the terms of reference suggested by you for the proposed enquiry on the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

His formulation is as follows:-

"To enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident and subsequent developments connected therewith."

2. Unless you have any further suggestions to make we will announce these terms of reference along with the formal announcement of the appointment of the committee.

3. We have been informed that Sri R.K.Mittra who has recently taken over as Commissioner of the Calcutta Port Trust cannot be spared for the work of the committee. Foreign Secretary is in correspondence with the Premier of West Bengal for a substitute for Shri Mittra.

Yours sincerely,

(A.J.Kidwai)

Major General Shah Nawaz Khan,  
Parliamentary Secretary to  
Minister of Transport,  
NEW DELHI.



78/122

119

Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

February 3, 1956.

The Government of India's invitation to you to join on the Committee which is being appointed to enquire into the circumstances of the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was conveyed to you through Major-General Shah Nawaz Khan and Dr. B.C. Roy. We are glad to hear from General Shah Nawaz Khan that you have agreed to serve on the proposed Committee.

2. Before finalising the programme of the Committee, we should like to know whether it would be possible for you to undertake the journey to Japan towards the middle or end of next month. It will also be necessary for the Committee to meet once in Delhi before leaving for Japan.

ISSUED

(S. Dutt)

Shri Suresh Chander Bose,  
C/o Shri Hari Das Mitra,  
Ashu Biswas Road,  
Calcutta

me  
4h  
S/S  
A9-2nd  
5/2  
N.G.O.  
6/2



120

No. 28/111

February 1, 1956.

Dear Dr. Roy,

Thank you for your letter No.81-CM of  
January 30, 1956.

2. Ranajit Gupta will be an excellent choice  
for the membership of the Committee which is to go to  
Japan. I do hope you will succeed in inducing him to  
put off his leave. The Committee is to leave for Japan  
in March, and including the time of the journey to and  
back they may have to be on this particular job for a  
month or so. I mention this in order to give Gupta some  
estimate of the time that is likely to occupy him on this  
work.

3. I had a recent letter from Sankar Moitra.  
He has written to me that he will be returning to India  
some time in April. We would rather not wait till then.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

Dr. B.C. Roy,  
Chief Minister of West Bengal,  
CALCUTTA

ISSUED





①

121

50. No. 91- CM  
491-NSD/116

CHIEF MINISTER  
WEST BENGAL

CALCUTTA  
January 30, 1956

My dear Subimal,

You remember I had spoken to you about R.K.Mitra's going to Japan. You told me that the Transport Department would find it difficult to spare him. I find there are two alternatives;

Mr.Ranajit Gupta who had been Chief Presidency Magistrate for many years, and Home Secretary before going to the Port Trust, would suit this post very well. He has taken leave for eight months with effect from the 26th of January. He is due to leave for Europe on the 18th of February but I have suggested to him that he might go to Japan before he goes to Europe. I do not know his reaction yet ; he is considering the matter. What do you say to it ?

The other alternative is that when Sankar Moitra comes back to Calcutta, he may before going to East Bengal, go over to Japan for three



122

weeks.

please let me know your views.

Yours sincerely,

B.C.R.

Shri S.Dutt, ICS.,  
Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI



Copy.

123

"Kamini Kuthir" Bhubaneswar  
(Orissa),  
7th December, 1955.

My dear Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan,

I am exceedingly sorry for not having replied to your letter earlier.

I had given you my word that I would be glad to be on the Committee and so was expecting confirmation of the same either from you or from some other source at Delhi.

In your letter to Shri Haridas Mitre, you expected me in Delhi during the present period. I am sorry I will be late by a few days, as the whole of this house is expected to be taken by some department of this Government for a fairly long period. As this will benefit me, I am remodelling this house so as to suit them well. My work here is almost finished and I wrote to Haridas yesterday that I could reach Calcutta on Sunday next, the 11th instant. I shall be in Calcutta for only 2 or 3 days and so expect to be in Delhi by the 16th or 17th instant. Please communicate this piece of news to Sheila and Pradip, as I am not writing to them about it.

I hope and trust all of you are doing well. I am well.

Yours very sincerely,

Suresh C. Bose.

Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, M.P.,  
New Delhi.



~~TOP SECRET~~

(24) No. 221-N-80 (158)

17th January, 1956.

(Tel. No. 32515)

Dear Major-General Shah Nawaz,

I tried to see you this morning in connection with Netaji Subash Chander Bose Enquiry Committee arrangements, but I was told you have left for Calcutta. Since you will be in Calcutta and probably meeting your two other colleagues in the proposed Committee, we shall be grateful if you would kindly draw up in consultation with them a tentative programme of the Committee.

I have been asked to suggest to you the enclosed itinerary for the Committee, which of course may be revised as a result of your discussions. But as far as possible the programme suggested by you should not exceed five weeks, as Cabinet approval for the duration of the work of the Committee has been obtained for five weeks only. If, however, the Committee after a preliminary survey of the task before it feels that five weeks will not be sufficient for it to finish its work, it may ask for further extension of time.

I was asked to consult you about the terms of reference for the Committee. I hope during your stay in Calcutta you will also give some thought to it and let us have the benefit of your advice on return.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(A. J. Kidwai)  
Deputy Secretary.

*N. Ghosh*  
*17/1/56*  
Major-General Shah Nawaz,  
C/O Shri Arobindo Ghosh,  
No. 2 Moira Street,  
Calcutta.



(125)

ITINERARY.

15th to 20th February.

Committee meets and studies relevant papers and documents in External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi.

21st to 23rd February.

Examination of witnesses in India and Pakistan.

24th February.

Leave for Singapore.

25th to 28th February.

Examination of witnesses in Singapore.

29th February.

Leave for Bangkok.

1st to 3rd March.

Examination of witnesses in Bangkok.

4th March.

Leave for Saigon.

5th and 6th March.

Examination of witnesses in Saigon.

7th March.

Leave for Tokyo.

8th to 21st March.

Enquiry in Tokyo.

22nd March.

Leave for India.



(126)

to  
Shi Anobido Shub  
No. 2. Maria Shub  
Calcutta.

23 Nov 24/11



STARRED QUESTION NO.431.

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER. 1955.

NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE.

QUESTION

No.431 SHRI GIDWANI:  
SHRI RAGHURAMIAH:  
SHRI KAMATH:  
SARDAR HUKAM SINGH:  
SHRI BAHADUR SINGH:  
SHRI HEDA:

Will the Prime Minister be

pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are considering the question of setting up a Committee to enquire into the circumstances of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose?

.....

ANSWER

SHRI JAWAHRLAL NEHRU:

Government have decided to send some persons to Japan to investigate into the circumstances relating to the death of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose. The Japanese Government has been consulted, and they have promised us full cooperation in the enquiry.

.....



PS  
A-13

Q 431

Shri Gidwani: Who will be the members of the committee?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is proposed to send three persons, one of them being a representative of the West Bengal Government, and two others, as we have not obtained the permission of those persons, it would not perhaps be fair to mention their names.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether those persons will also be requested to visit Formosa where this accident occurred?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, they will not be so requested.

To begin with, there are various difficulties in the way. We cannot visit a place without the co-operation of the Government of that place. Secondly, in effect, if the hon.Member will see, there will not be much purpose in visiting there, because all the so-called evidence, witnesses etc., are likely to be in Japan, if they survive. It is a military airfield and all the Japanese have been sent away from Formosa long ago. So all the persons are really in Japan - those who can be approached. Merely seeing the airfield will not convey any information or help.

(cd.by B)



11.10  
Ayyar  
B-1

Q.431

Shri Kamath: May I know if the attention of the Prime

Minister has been drawn to a photograph published in a section of the Bengal Press some two months ago or a little later, reported to have been taken in Peking in May 1952 and published originally by the Workers' Press in Peking? Has he received a copy of this photograph? I will place it on the Table of the House or pass it on to you or to him. May I know if that Press photograph bears a striking resemblance to Netaji or is it merely a double as doubles are; and may I know whether this would be placed before the Committee of Enquiry?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have seen that photograph published in the newspapers. Personally, I do not attach much importance to a vague possible resemblance. There are so many vague possible resemblances in such matters. I do not think it is a matter which is of very serious consequence; but all these facts would be considered, naturally, whatever they are.

Shri Kamath: Has our Embassy in Tokyo been asked to informally or officially contact or consult the Japanese Govt. as to whether they will associate themselves with this Committee of Enquiry in an Indo-Japanese Commission so as to have a thorough enquiry into this matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may read the second sentence of my answer, it says;

"The Japanese Government has been consulted and they have promised ~~x~~ us full cooperation in the enquiry".



Q & A (3.12.55)  
Uncorrected - Not for Publication

Q.431 contd. .

Shri Kamath: Will <sup>that</sup> be an Indo-Japanese Commission of  
Enquiry or what?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about it. This  
raises matters of procedure. The point is that  
they are fully co-operating in this.



TOP SECRET

No. FS/42

23rd November, 1955.

Dear Dr. Roy,

As the Prime Minister must have told you the Government of India have now decided to have an inquiry made into the circumstances of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's death about which some doubt lingers even now in the minds of some people. It is our intention to send a team of three persons from India to make inquiries on the spot in Japan. The Government of Japan have promised cooperation in this inquiry. It is not likely that permission would be given by the Taiwan authorities to the investigating team for inquiries in Taiwan, but on their way to Tokyo the team might halt at Saigon and Singapore to make informal inquiries at these two places. We do not envisage an elaborate inquiry involving the recording of evidence of a large number of witnesses. It will be more in the nature of an informal inquiry by the members of the team contacting people who may have information in their possession relating to Shri Bose's death. There are papers in the Ministry of External Affairs and before the team leaves for Tokyo the members should assemble in Delhi and look into the papers for a week or so. The Prime Minister attaches importance to the inquiry being carried out without too much fuss or publicity. This will be impressed on the members of the team.

2. It is the Prime Minister's idea that the investigating team should consist of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Railways and Transport as Chairman, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose and a senior official, preferably of the Government of Bengal. The Prime Minister recorded a note on October 20 that he had spoken on the 'phone to you about Shri Suresh Chandra Bose. We presume that he is agreeable to working on the team. I shall be grateful if you will kindly let me know the name of the official of the Bengal Government whom you would recommend as the third member. It seems to me that the official should have some experience of tracing up clues and sifting information received from different sources and piecing them together. It would be for you to decide whether the official should be an experienced and senior member of the Indian Police Service. We feel the important consideration to bear in mind is not so much the technical ability of the official but of the confidence which his membership is likely to inspire particularly among the Bengal public.

3. I shall be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

Dr. B. C. Roy,  
Chief Minister of West Bengal,  
Calcutta.



CCB No. 11864

O.I.P.

TELEGRAM

SECRET

From - Indebassy, Tokyo  
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO NOVEMBER 121230  
DTR NOVEMBER 121415

IMMEDIATE

No. 107.

Foreign Secretary from Ambassador. Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. KAUL's letter No. 2483-NGO/55 18th October. Please inform Prime Minister that in accordance with his directive I have discussed with Foreign Minister the proposal to send enquiry committee to investigate into circumstances of death and the identity of the ashes. Foreign Minister has consulted the Cabinet and I have been informed that Japanese Government accept the proposal fully and will be glad to cooperate in every way\*.

\*by ch

Awaiting further instructions\*.

PPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), Minister, Deputy Minister, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, JSAD, JSA, DSXP, SO NGO and Cabinet Secretary.

BM Manchanda  
Superintendent CCB

JL(22)  
12-11-55



O.T.P.

TELEGRAM

SECRET

From - Indembassy, Tokyo  
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO NOVEMBER 121230  
DTR NOVEMBER 121415

IMMEDIATE

No. 107.

Foreign Secretary from Ambassador: Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. KAUL's letter No. 2483-NGO/55 18th October. Please inform Prime Minister that in accordance with his directive I have discussed with Foreign Minister the proposal to send enquiry committee to investigate into circumstances of death and the identity of the ashes. Foreign Minister has consulted the Cabinet and I have been informed that Japanese Government accept the proposal fully and will be glad to cooperate in every way\*.

\*by ch

Awaiting further instructions\*.

PPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), Minister, Deputy Minister, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, JSAD, JSA, DSXP, SO NGO and Cabinet Secretary.

JL(22)  
12-11-55

BM Manchanda  
Superintendent CCB



18th October 1955.

My dear Ambassador,

I enclose copy of a minute recorded by the Prime Minister, in Calcutta, regarding the late Shri Subash Chandra Bose. We should be grateful if you would kindly let us know the result of your approach to the Japanese Government on the subject.

2. In addition to the three members of the Committee, I am desired to suggest that your First Secretary might be attached to the Committee for help and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

(T. N. Kaul)

Shri B. R. Sen, ICS.,  
The Ambassador of India in Japan,  
T O K Y O.

Issue 14  
await return of  
file [now with US (Sen)]

Ms 20

1870



*Personal*  
Niharendu Dutt-Mazumdar

Phone : PK. 3451

7, MAYFAIR  
CALCUTTA-19

11. 10. 55.

My dear Shri Jawaharlalji,

I was glad to learn from Shri  
Sheela Newaz Khan that you are now  
thinking of sponsoring a fact-finding  
commission to enquire in to the  
mysterious disappearance of Netaji,  
in view of the recent controversy  
about his alleged death, ashes, etc.

You will perhaps recall  
that at the time of the Kalyani  
Congress I made a request to you  
to do this and sent you a draft  
resolution suggesting that the  
Congress might take the matter  
up. In reply to this, I received  
a letter from you detailing  
your personal views in the matter.  
Thereafter the question was pursued  
no further.

However, a meeting of  
the Netaji Smarak Samiti in  
Calcutta the other day, held with



Shri. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee in the chair, asked me to draw up a resolution to convey its proposals to you for your consideration. Accordingly, the proposals have been embodied in a resolution which I handed over to Shyama Prasad yesterday to be placed before you.

I strongly feel that the facts should be ascertained by a proper enquiry as a matter of national duty of India from every point of view. The enquiry should start as early as possible.

As regards personnel, five names are suggested, including mine leaving aside false modesty. If you approve I should indeed like to be of some service in this work. There are reasons for it. I have also particularly suggested the name of Shri. C. N. Numbekar. Can't he be spared for this work? Other names are Dr. R. B. Lal, Sri Surish Ch. Bose and Shyama Prasad Khanna. These are my suggestions for whatever they are worth.

When you come to Calcutta I should like to see you for a few moments in this connection if possible.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,  
M. K. Dasgupta



TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1955

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

QUESTION

NC. 13      (SRI KAMATH                :  
                (SRI RADHA RAMANI        :  
                (SRI S.N. DAS             : Will the Prime Minister

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a memorial service was held on the 18th September, 1955 in Tokyo for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Ambassador to Tokyo and other members of the Indian Embassy were invited to attend the service;
- (c) whether all or any of them attended; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

• • • • •

# ASHES OF NETAJI

NC. 14      DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH:      Will the Prime Minister  
be pleased to state;

- (a) whether Government are aware of the recent controversy which has arisen about the authenticity of the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which have been kept in the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, Japan;
- (b) if so, the factual information about this matter; and
- (c) whether Government have approached the Government of Japan and the management of the Renkoji Temple to bring these ashes to India?

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1

## ANSWER

SHRI JANAKARLAL NEERU:

13 & 14 A Memorial Service for the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was held on the 18th August, 1955, in the



137

-: 2 :-

Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. The Indian Embassy were invited to the Service, and several members of the Embassy attended. The Ambassador himself was not in Tokyo at the time, but the First Secretary of the Embassy, who represented him, placed a wreath on his behalf on the urn containing the ashes.

Subsequently, the Indian Embassy received an invitation for a second Memorial Service a month later, on the 18th September, in the same temple. They felt that a repetition of the ceremony so soon after the first Memorial Service would detract from the solemnity of the occasion. This view of the Embassy was conveyed to the authorities of the Renkoji Temple, and they were told that the Indian Embassy could not properly be expected to attend another Memorial Service after having done so on the 18th August which was the appropriate date.

Government have not approached the Government of Japan or the management of the Renkoji Temple to bring these ashes to India. Government have felt that in this matter, no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

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"ANAND"  
28th Sep.'55



Balu  
G-4

S.W.Q.Nos.13 & 14

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Japanese Government contributed nearly 20,000 yen to the Memorial Service either on the 18th or on the subsequent occasion? And did they approach or ask our Government whether they were willing to make any contribution also to this Service, and if so, what was the reaction of our Government to this request or approach of the Japanese Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think the hon.Member is right in saying that the Japanese Government contributed a sum probably 20,000 yen, according to Japanese custom. I do not know if they approached our Embassy to contribute any money for this purpose. Normally, it is not done. It is not our custom. It was the Japanese custom, and they followed it.

Shri Kamath: The Prime Minister has said that the question with regard to the ashes, or the supposed ashes, of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is a matter for his family to decide. He has said in the last Parliament on the 9th March 1951, that personally he was not satisfied that the report presented or submitted by Mr. S.A. Iyer, one time member of Netaji's Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind, was convincing enough, and therefore that was not the last word on the subject. May I know whether Government still hold the view that that is not the last word and that the report of Mr. S A Iyer is not convincing, and whether it is because of that that Government have not taken any action in this matter with regard to the ashes? May I also know whether this matter is merely a family affair or a national affair?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon.Member will notice that what I have said is that the approval of the family is necessary and desirable. I do not say that it is entirely a family affair; certainly, it is a national affair also.

Hon.Members will remember that some time ago, for a considerable time, some people in this country doubted the fact of



S.N.Q. 13 & 14 (contd)

of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death, and challenged that. It became difficult for Government to take any action in this matter when this fact was doubted by some, and certainly not without the approval of the family.

The hon.Member has referred to a report by Mr. Iyer, and to what I am reported to have said. I have absolutely no recollection of having made the remark which the hon.Member says I made.

Shri Kamath: I shall pass it on to you.

Mr. Speaker: Later.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:- It may be that I made the remark in regard to certain details in that report. But I have no doubt in my mind, I did not have it then, and I have no doubt today, of the fact of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death. It may be that the circumstance may not be quite clear; it may be so.

In a matter of this kind, the only enquiry, i.e., satisfactory enquiry that can be made, is by the Japanese Government. The matter is in Japan; the whole think is there. We cannot impose ourselves or an enquiry committee on the Japanese Government. Of course if they choose to enquire, we will very gladly co-operate and give such help as we can. But we simply cannot enquire into their territory, and more specially also, when probably all the possible witnessess are either Japanese Government officials or others connected with that Government.

Shri Kamath: Am I to understand that Government will welcome a proposal for an Indo-Japanese commission to enquire into this matter at official level or governmental level?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have said that the question of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death is, I think, settled beyond doubt. There can be no enquiry about that. But as for the exact circumstances, possibly if there is an enquiry held, it may be that some additional facts may come to our notice. And as I said, the initiative must come from the Japanese Government in this matter. If it comes, naturally we shall gladly give them such help as we can.



Balu  
G-6

S.N.Q. 13 & 14(contd)

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: The Prime Minister has told us that he has no manner of doubt in his own mind about the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Do we take it that this is based on a definite finding by Government in regard to the finality of the information? In that case, I want to know how is it that we are not taking steps to secure the expeditious return of ashes, and also, apart from that, to do in this country certain jobs which we owe to the memory of the dead. I ask this question because this question of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose or otherwise has been contested, and the whole matter is hanging fire for a long time, but people's emotions require to be respected on this issue of the death of a very great man. And that is why I ask the Prime Minister to tell us what steps Government intend to take--now that he is certain that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead -- in regard to the perpetuation of his memory in this country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:- I thought that I had answered this question already.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:- The Prime Minister has said that Government have not approached the Japanese Government or the management of the Renkoji temple, to bring those ashes to India in the absence of the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. May I know whether Government have approached that family or sought their permission to bring ashes to India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not recently. But references have been made in the past.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Shri H N Mukerjee rose --

Mr. Speaker: He has answered the question already. I do not want to argue.



(11)

S.N.Q 13 & 14 (contd).

Shri H N Mukerjee : I have not got the answer. The House has not got the answer. The country has not got the answer. Let us have it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is not a debate that is going on. The hon. Member will realise that he is asking for information. Even the long question that he put was, really speaking, not a question which should have been allowed by me, but it is because of the emotions and sentiments that I have allowed it. Now, there is an end to it.

-.-.-.-.-



No. F.25/4/NGO.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
New Delhi,

the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1955.

My dear Dar,

This is to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt  
of your demi-official letter No. F.5(1)NGO-1 dated the 30th August,  
which is being examined.

Yours sincerely,

(A.J. Kidwai)

(~~PRIN K. K. K.~~)

DS(E)

To

Shri A.K. Dar,  
Embassy of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

'SAMAN'



O. T. P.

TELEGRAM:

~~SECRET~~

From: Indembaassy, Tokyo.  
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTR SEPT 221640

DTR SEPT 222110

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 91. From Ambassador.

\*By ch.

Your telegram No. 6437 21st September. Second memorial service for SUBHAS CHANDRA\* BOSE. Full details sent by bag today. Please await same. Briefly a second service was held by Renkoji Temple authorities on 18th September. Japanese Government having erroneously decided against representation at 18th August service changed their previous\* stand about attendance at a private memorial service in Temple and attended this second service. Japanese Foreign Office was warned clearly that this behaviour of the Temple authorities in holding a second service would arouse controversy particularly if Japanese Government were represented in any manner specially in face of their abstention from the correct\* memorial service of 18th August. We suspect Japanese are somehow anxious for transfer of ashes and have therefore encouraged controversial publicity now. Our stand\* is that having attended the correct 10th anniversary Memorial Service on 18th August we should not be pressed\* into attending another service so soon thereafter otherwise Japanese may hold a service every month as they have hinted they well might just to accentuate controversy and show that India is defaulting in taking over the ashes. So far as the Temple authorities are concerned they seem to be looking forward to some monetary reward from us for keeping the ashes. Would request your clear instructions after you have seen our detailed report mentioned above.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER: DY. MINISTER: SG(2):

FS(2): CS(2): JSE: JSAD: JSA: DSXP: DSE: US FEA:

FEA SEC(2): SO NGO &amp; CABINET SECRETARY.

Superintendent CCB.

DHAWAN(26)  
22/9/1955.



144  
O.T.P.

CCB No.6437

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO September 21 Nil.

IMMEDIATE

No.6437. There have been reports in newspapers here on Memorial Service held for Subhas Chandra Bose in Tokyo last Sunday. The temple in which it was held was not specifically named but from descriptions it appears to be Renkoji temple.

Ceremony is reported to have touched off controversy among local Indians over the authenticity of Netaji's ashes and some have denounced ceremony which is reported to have been attended by only three Indians. Three former Japanese Army officials have also joined this controversy and testified to fact of Netaji's death and the authenticity of ashes.

Short Notice question has been asked in the Parliament. Surprisingly we have had no report from you. Last report we received from you was in Dar's letter No.F.5(1)NGO-1, dated 30th August, 1955 in which he described Memorial Service held on the 18th August in Renkoji temple. This appears to be the second ceremony held in same temple. Embassy officials with our permission attended the ceremony of 18th August but reports say that boycotted last ceremony of 18th September which reported to have been attended by representative of Japanese Foreign Office. Please telegraph full facts and also whether Indian Embassy boycotted 18th September Memorial Service.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER: DY MINISTER: SG(2):FS(2):

CS(2): JSAD: JSA: JSE: DSKP: DSE: USFEA: FEA SEC(2): ~~SONGO~~

AND CABINET SECRETARY.

*Ref...*  
Superintendent CCB.

Shivpuri/26.  
21.9.1955.





सत्यमेव जयते

SECRET

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

August 30, 1955.

Subject:- Memorial Service - Subhas Chander Bose.

Dear Mr. Kaul,

With reference to Foreign, New Delhi telegram No. 28436 of July 30th, 1955, on the above subject, I am desired to forward herewith for information copies of office notings which would bring Government up-to-date on the position in this behalf.

Yours sincerely,

*A.K. Dar*

( A.K.Dar )

Shri T.N. Kaul, ICS,  
Joint Secretary to the  
Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*SECRET*

*Pl. sub. & examine. While we accept  
majority view, so we accept these as the  
reasons. If so then we would  
take them over & put them in the  
suggestion by the Govt. & the right one.*



With reference to E.A. Ministry's telegram No. 28436 of July 30th, I summarize below the developments to-date regarding the memorial service for the late Subhas Chander Bose.

The Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple wherein the ashes are being kept met me in detail and subsequently the Ambassador briefly. He was informed that the Embassy had no objection to his idea of a memorial service on August 18, 1955. He was advised, however, that the memorial service should be conducted in an appropriate and dignified manner. Apparently the temple management committee members amongst whom there are also members of the Diet and of the Municipal Assembly sensed the interest of the Embassy and decided to gain political profit thereby. This was discovered when I met the Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau and particularly the Chief of Protocol who was rather worried that we were encouraging the temple management committee in collecting funds both privately and from the Japanese Government to have a Japanese styled memorial service. The Japanese style memorial service includes besides the brief religious service feasting and distribution of gifts on as lavish a scale as is warranted by the circumstances of those who sponsor the memorial service. The Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau felt that the Gaimusho should be represented at the memorial service but the Chief of Protocol was quite clear that it would not be proper for the Japanese Government to be represented at a memorial service unless the service was sponsored by either a Diplomatic Mission or the

Japanese /.....



Japanese Government itself. So far as sponsorship by the Japanese Government was concerned there was little time to put the matter up to the Japanese Government for a decision. Also it was unlikely that the Japanese Government would in any case agree to holding the service in the Renkoji Temple or in any other temple and not prefer a non-religious place. The Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau was agreeable, however, to attending the service in his private capacity providing the circumstances so warranted. Upon subsequent discussions with the Chief Priest and the temple management committee it was found that the temple authorities had indeed thought of collecting money and doing publicity which incidentally but materially would be of benefit to the Renkoji Temple.

The Renkoji Temple is not a very popular temple in Tokyo being of the Nichiren Sect which is the minority Buddhist Sect in Japan. Keeping these factors in view the Chief Priest was advised that the Embassy would not be happy if the memorial service was followed by feasting and revelry or any undesirable publicity. The Chief Priest assured me that he himself was not interested in any money and would ensure that the service was conducted in a simple but appropriate manner. He felt, however, that a service on a more elaborate scale might be conducted later on.

The temple authorities besides sending a formal intimation to us also sent intimations to certain other individuals. The Embassy staff was accordingly advised to feel free to attend the service. A wreath was sent on behalf of the Ambassador and under his instructions and in his absence on tour to the Hokkaido Island I attended the service on August 18th. The Registrar from the Trade Section was also present. Amongst the Indians there was Mr. S.S. Virik of Malaya, the former I.N.A. cadet in Japan and presently studying at Tokyo University under Japanese scholarship, who took the ashes from



(148)

Mr. Sahay's house to the Renkoji Temple in September, 1945. Also Mr. Murthy, the younger brother of the 'famous' Mr. Murthy who is supposed to have grown rich at the expense of the I.N.A. funds, two Indian visitors whose names I do not know and another Indian resident in Tokyo but whose family is settled in Ceylon.

I gathered that the Chief Priest has during the past years also held private services on each August 18 but has not specifically notified any one of the services being held and as such the attendance, if any, was by the followers of the Nichiren Sect who happened to be visiting Renkoji Temple at that time. On this occasion such stray visitors were apparently confined to the outer halls and the corridors during the period of the service. Inside the service hall which would normally seat 60 or 70 persons only 25 persons were present besides the temple priests. Amongst them were Lady Tojo, wife of the late General Tojo with her A.D.C., ex-General Kawabe, former Supreme Commander of the Burma Area Forces, ex-Lt.General Nakamura, former Commander-in-Chief of the Siam Area Army, ex-Lt.General Mutaguchi, former Commander-in-Chief of the North Burma Advanced Army which went upto Imphal and ex-Colonel Fujiwara, who was the Adviser-in-Chief to the I.N.A. in Burma and Principal Staff Officer of the Southern Area Army. It might be mentioned that Lt. General Nakamura and Colonel Fujiwara were taken to India during the I.N.A. trials and served imprisonment as War Criminals in Singapore. The other three Generals served their term as War Criminals in Sugamo in Japan. I understand that all of these ex army officers are now in private business. I do not know the names of the other persons as I was not introduced to them but I spotted two members of the House of Councillors who were noticeable on account of their distinctive purple colour lapel badges which signified the membership of the House of Councillors.



I understand that Mr. Majumdar, the present President of the Indian Association had initially thought of attending the service but desisted from doing so. He was apparently prevailed upon by the few vocal members of the Indian community who either do not accept the fact of Netaji's death or dislike participation in anything connected with Mr. Murthy and Mr. Aiyar.

The service started just after 3.00 p.m. and lasted for slightly less than an hour. The first half consisted of prayers in Japanese and the latter half of recitation from the Geeta. There were no speeches on this occasion. All present burnt incense according to Japanese Buddhist ritual in front of an altar inside the hall. The wooden box containing the ashes was not placed on the altar but kept in a different part of the hall. I believe that this was done in order to avoid any controversy about honouring the ashes which are still not accepted by some as genuine and also to avoid any feeling that any particular human being was being worshipped. I think that the service as such was conducted in a simple but very dignified and orderly manner.

After the service I was introduced to Lady Tojo and the ex army officers named above. I gathered from them that Count Keizo Shibusawa grandson of the founder of the former Shibusawa Zaibatsu, presently President of the International Telegraph and Telephone Company etc. is thinking of financing a Subhas Chander Bose study group in Japan. The Generals present at the service were fairly enthusiastic about the idea but did not clarify as to what the objective of the study group would be.

The urgent issue seems to me to be the disposal of the ashes. Although two successive Heads of Mission in accordance with Government instructions have asked the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple to continue as



150

the custodian of the ashes on behalf of the Embassy of India the box containing the ashes bears no seals of the Government. Aesthetically the box is not very attractive either. There is no reason perhaps to suspect that the Chief Priest would have tampered with the contents of the box in any manner as he is not particularly interested in the ashes one way or the other. He is nevertheless a fairly aged gentleman and not getting any younger. If, on the other hand, we put Government seals on the box now expectations will immediately be aroused that Government are likely to take over the ashes soon. Also the temple management authorities may raise enough fuss thereafter to oblige us in donating some money for the temple. I feel fairly satisfied that the Chief Priest is a good man and speaks sincerely when he states that he is not interested in making any money out of his custodianship of the ashes. He does say, however, that whatever we may give should be for the temple thereby implying an expectation, not unreasonable of an eventual donation from Government for the temple. It would be best, therefore, if whatever donation has to be given is given only at one point of time and that too only after a final decision has been reached on the disposal of the ashes. It might be better, under the circumstances, not to put any Government seals on the box containing the ashes until a firm decision has been reached about the disposition of the ashes themselves. Perhaps these things cannot be hurried but if the ashes are accepted as genuine it would be desirable to arrange a somewhat more appropriate custody thereof than is the case at present and at least a more proper receptacle for them.

Sd/-

( A.K.Dar )  
25.8.55



(181)

In my view, we should let the ashes be where they are now in the Renkoji Temple for the present. I do not think it would be wise at this stage to take any step such as F.S. has suggested to put Government seals on the box containing the ashes.

A copy of these notes may be forwarded to the E.A. Ministry for information.

Sd/-

( B.R.Sen )  
30. 8. 55

F.S.



*M.S.*  
*F. 25/4* (P)

(152)

O.T.P.

CCB No. 5142

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO JULY 301300

IMMEDIATE

*6-A*

No. 28436.

Your telegram 73 July 29th. We think that our Embassy should participate in Memorial Services for Subhas Chandra Bose. Prime Minister stated in Parliament two years ago that in the circumstances we had to accept fact of death. Therefore, there is no difficulty in our taking up this position publicly.

\*\*\*\*\*

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM (4): MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2):

JSE: JSAD: JSA: JSP: DSXP: DSE: US FEA: US PTII: FEA SEC (2):

PT II SECTION (2): S.O. NGO AND CABINET SECRETARY.

*El. each*

Superintendent CCB

BAL (29)  
30.7.55.



1975  
F. 25/4  
P  
153  
OTF  
TELEGRAM

CCB NO. 7827.

~~SECRET~~

From - Indembassy, Tokyo.  
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO JULY 291630  
DTR JULY 291900

IMMEDIATE

\*By ch.

No.73. From Ambassador. Your telegram No.28434 dated 28 July Late SUBHAS CHANDRA\* BOSE. My views generally same as RAUF's. Main question is whether Government are in a position publicly\* to accept fact of death. If they are then there could\* be\* no\* objection\* to Embassy participating in memorial services here. It will be realised that participation in memorial service here will also involve Government in other actions which must logically follow. Whole issue seems obviously tied up with repercussions at home and I feel can best be decided at policy level in India. Japanese feelings\* or\* those of community here not of much importance.

.....

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM (4): MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JS E:  
JS AD: JS A: JS P: DS XP: DS E: US FEA: US PT II: FEA SEC(2):  
PT II SEC(2): SO NGO & CAB SECY.

*W. L. Wilson*  
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)  
29-7-55.



OTP

CCB NO. 5061.

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.  
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO JULY 281230

IMPORTANT

No. 28434.

For Ambassador. Your No. 71 July 26. Kindly  
telegraph your views and see Rauf's d.o. No. FS(1)NGO(1).  
23rd June 1954 to Kaul.

.....

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM (4): MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSR:  
JS AD: JS A: JS P: DS XP: DS E: US FEA: US PTII: FEA SEC(2):  
PT II SEC(2): SO NGO AND CAB SECY.

*m. h. h. h.*  
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)  
28-7-55.



105  
F-25/4

(P)

(155)

OTP

CCB NO. 7662.

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

From - Indembassy, Tokyo.  
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO JULY 261540  
DTR JULY 261800

IMPORTANT

No.71. Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. Chief Priest of Renkoji Buddhist Temple who has all along had custody of ashes proposes holding for first time formally a memorial service on 18th August. Temple authorities ask Embassy approval for this and request presence of Ambassador and other at the occasion. Please advise action desired.

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PPS TO PM: PS TO PM (4): MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE:  
JS AD: JS A: JS P: DS XP: DSE: US FEA: US PTII: FEA SEC(2):  
PT II SEC(2): SO NCO AND CAB SECY.

*W. S. W.*  
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)  
26-7-55.





156

~~SECRET~~

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

EXPRESS LETTER

July 19, 1955.

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

FROM : INDEMBASSY, TOKYO

TO : FOREIGN, NEW DELHI. ATTENTION: Shri A.J. Kidwai, Dy. Secretary.

SUBJECT:- Ashes of Shri Subash Chandra Bose.

With FEA Section

Reference your Express Letter No. D.2905-

FEA/55, dated 4th July, 1955, on the above subject. Your attention in this connection is invited to marginally noted and connected correspondence. Under the circumstances, we have no further comments to offer.

1. Letter No. D. 1003-CJK/52, dt. 18.3.52, from M/E.A.

2. Letter No. D. 5433-CJK/52, dt. 24.11.52, from Min. of E.A.

3. D.O. letter No. D. 4067-NGO/52, dt. 5.1.53, from Min. of E.A., New Delhi.

4. D.O. letter No. D.5219-NGO/53, dt. 4.12.53 from Min. of E.A., New Delhi.

at Flag 5 in file 25/4/NGO Vol 1  
SN 226-A

at Flag IV - do - Vol 1  
SN 232-A

✓ at Flag G - do -  
SN 184-A

Issue of the above has been authorised.

Agred 22/7

FEA. Alford

A.K. Dar

( A.K. Dar )  
First Secretary